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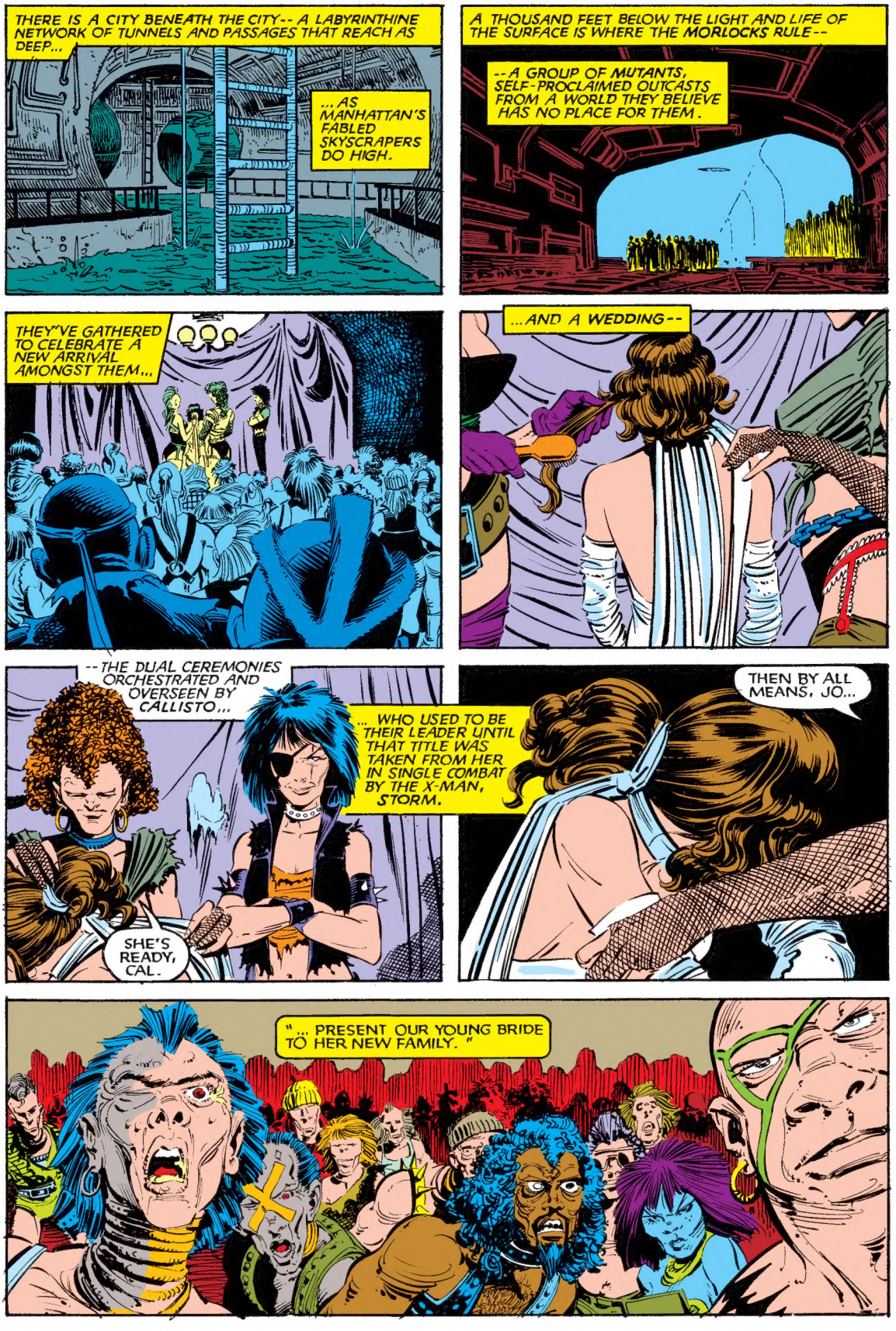

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STAN LEE PRESENTS
WHAT HAPPENED TO KITTY?
STARRING THE UNCANNY X-MEN!
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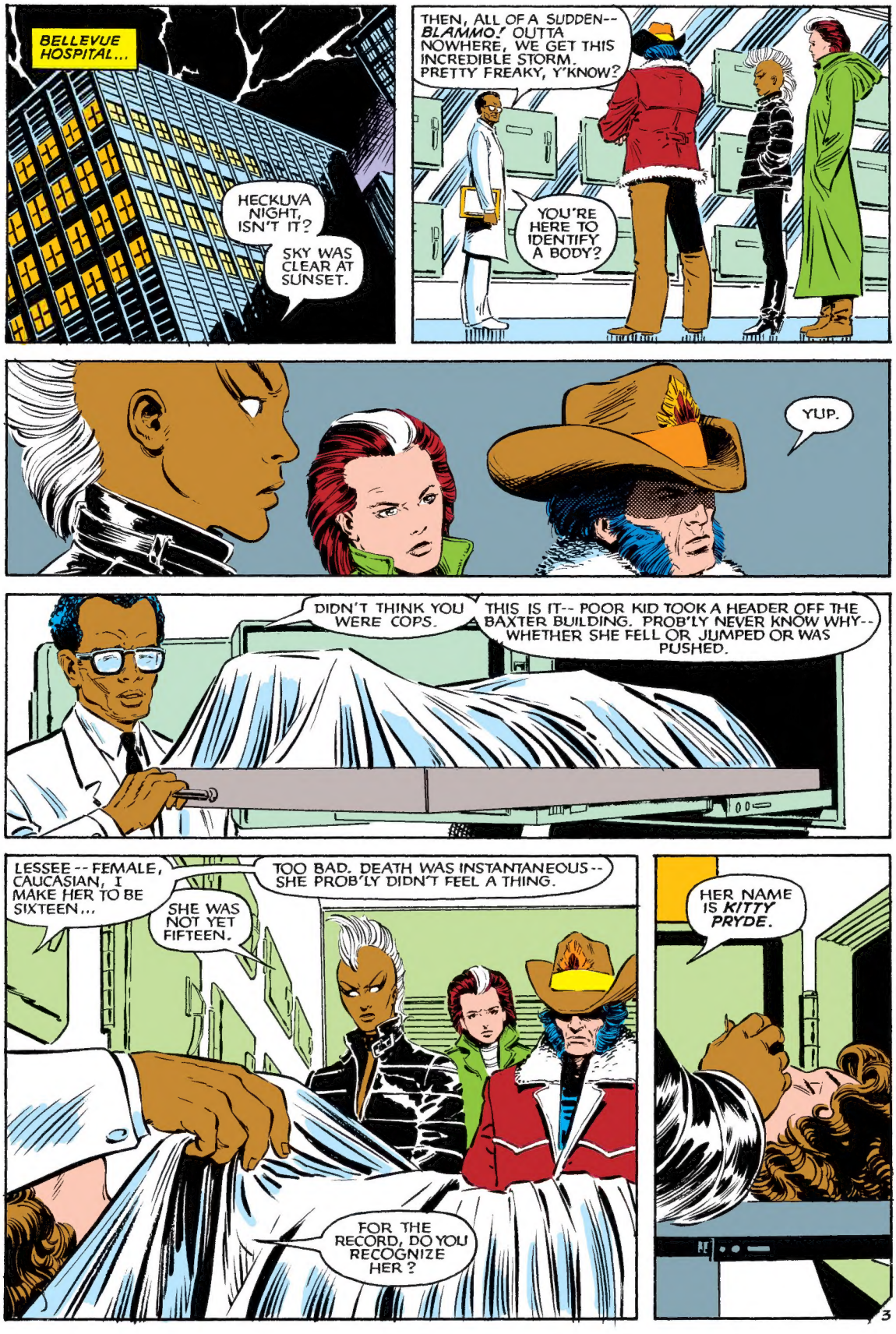
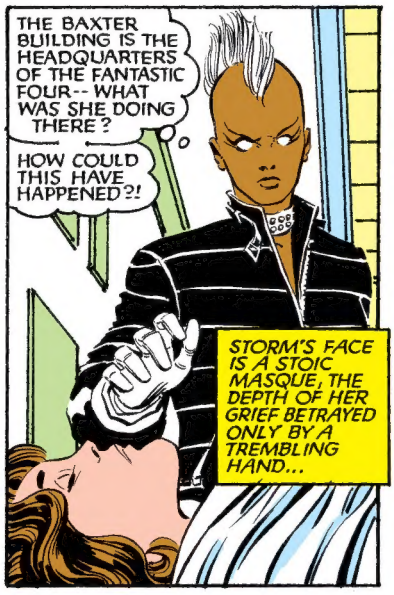
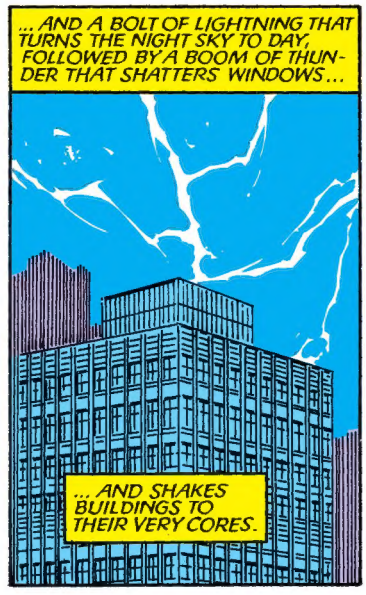
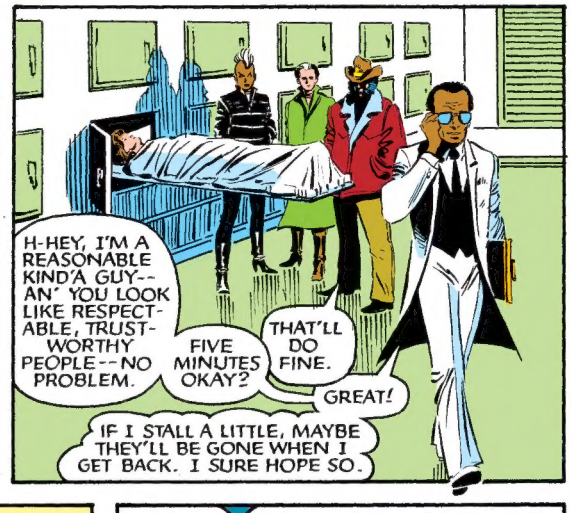

BELLEVUE HOSPITAL...
HECKUVA NIGHT, ISN'T IT?
SKY WAS CLEAR AT SUNSET.
THEN, ALL OF A SUDDEN-- BLAMMO! OUTTA NOWHERE, WE GET THIS INCREDIBLE STORM. PRETTY FREAKY, Y'KNOW?
YOU'RE HERE TO IDENTIFY A BODY?
YUP.
DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE COPS.
THIS IS IT-- POOR KID TOOK A HEADER OFF THE BAXTER BUILDING. PROB'LY NEVER KNOW WHY-- WHETHER SHE FELL OR JUMPED OR WAS PUSHED.
LESSEE -- FEMALE, CAUCASIAN, I MAKE HER TO BE SIXTEEN...
SHE WAS NOT YET FIFTEEN.
TOO BAD. DEATH WAS INSTANTANEOUS -- SHE PROB'LY DIDN'T FEEL A THING.
FOR THE RECORD, DO YOU RECOGNIZE HER?
HER NAME IS KITTY PRYDE.

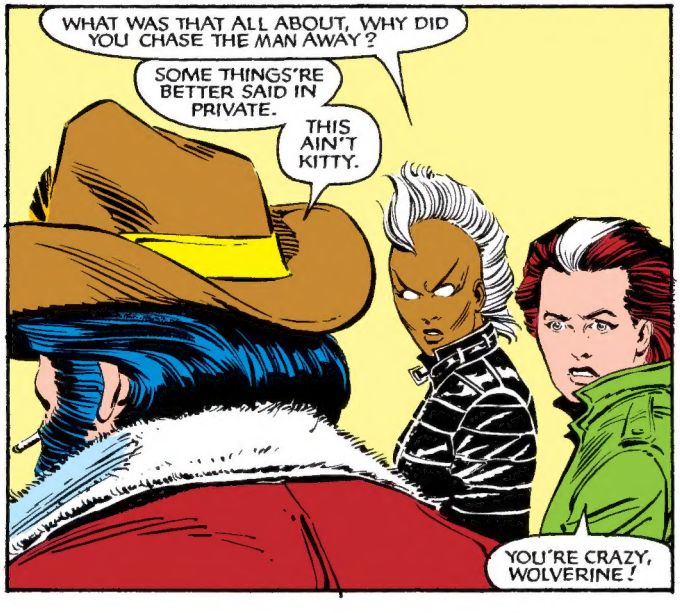

THE BAXTER BUILDING IS THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR-- WHAT WAS SHE DOING THERE?
HOW COULD THIS HAVE HAPPENED?!
STORM'S FACE IS A STOIC MASQUE, THE DEPTH OF HER GRIEF BETRAYED ONLY BY A TREMBLING HAND...

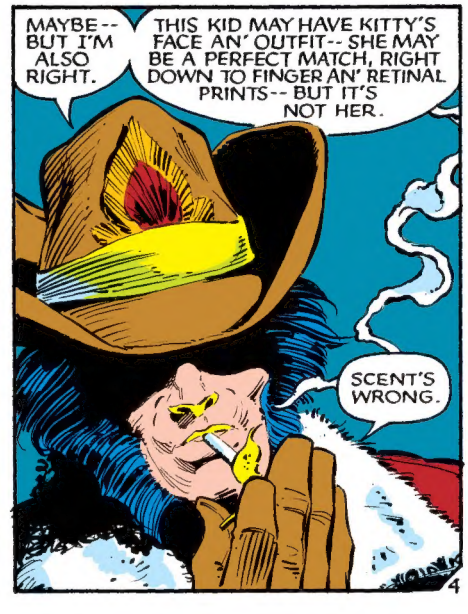

... AND A BOLT OF LIGHTNING THAT TURNS THE NIGHT SKY TO DAY, FOLLOWED BY A BOOM OF THUNDER THAT SHATTERS WINDOWS...
... AND SHAKES BUILDINGS TO THEIR VERY CORES.

HOLY COW! WHATEVER'S GOIN' ON UPSTAIRS MUST BE PRETTY IMPRESSIVE!
SO WHY DON'T'CHA TREAT YOURSELF TO A LOOK?
SORRY. CAN'T LEAVE VISITORS ALONE IN THE MORGUE. AGAINST THE RULES.

THIS ONCE, BEND 'EM A LITTLE.


H-HEY, I'M A REASONABLE KIND'A GUY-- AN' YOU LOOK LIKE RESPECTABLE, TRUSTWORTHY PEOPLE--NO PROBLEM.
FIVE MINUTES OKAY?
THAT'LL DO FINE.
GREAT!
IF I STALL A LITTLE, MAYBE THEY'LL BE GONE WHEN I GET BACK. I SURE HOPE SO.

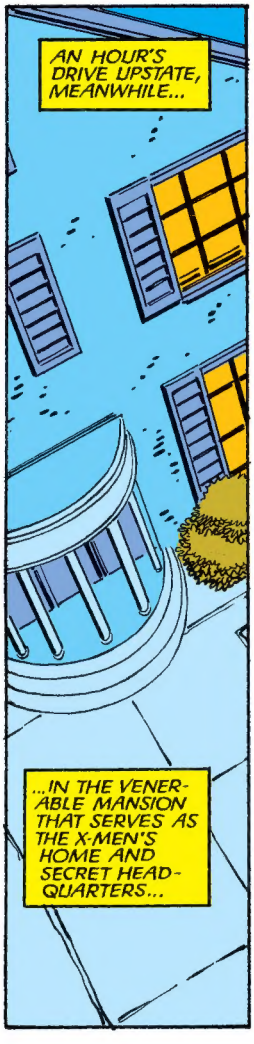

WHAT WAS THAT ALL ABOUT, WHY DID YOU CHASE THE MAN AWAY?
SOME THINGS'RE BETTER SAID IN PRIVATE.
THIS AIN'T KITTY.
YOU'RE CRAZY, WOLVERINE!

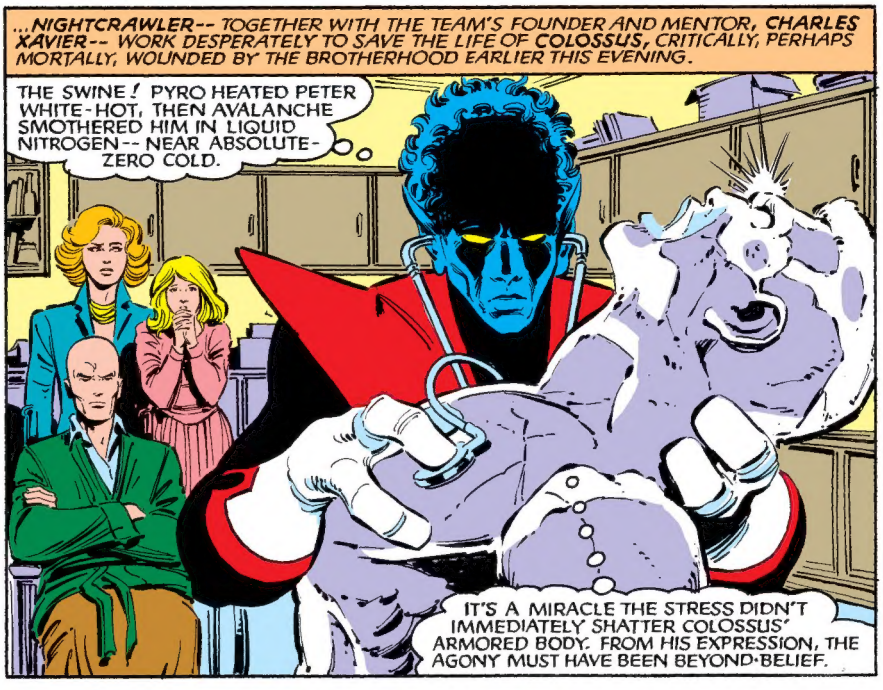

MAYBE-- BUT I'M ALSO RIGHT.
THIS KID MAY HAVE KITTY'S FACE AN' OUTFIT-- SHE MAY BE A PERFECT MATCH, RIGHT DOWN TO FINGER AN' RETINAL PRINTS-- BUT IT'S NOT HER.
SCENT'S WRONG.

ARE YOU CERTAIN, LOGAN?
WOULDN'T'VE SAID IT IF I WEREN'T, DARLIN'.
BUT WHY, STORM -- WHAT'S THE POINT?!
OBVIOUSLY, SOMEONE WISHES US TO BELIEVE KITTY IS DEAD.

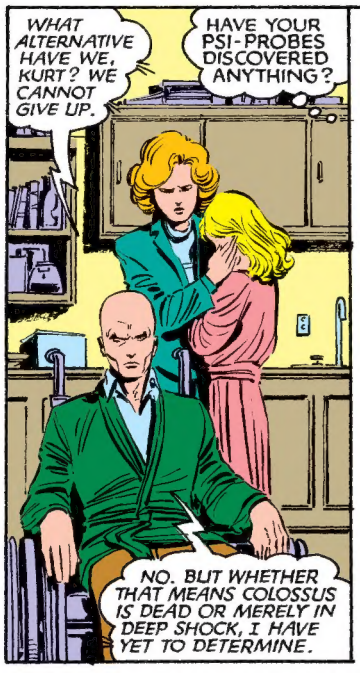
WE WOULD BURY HER, MOURN HER -- PERHAPS EVEN HUNT DOWN THE BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUTANTS, IN THE MISTAKEN BELIEF THAT THEY WERE RESPONSIBLE...
...SINCE THIS OCCURED DURING OUR BATTLE WITH THEM,* ALL THE WHILE NEVER SUSPECTING SHE WAS STILL ALIVE...
*LAST ISH -- L.

A PRISONER -- WITH HER CAPTORS FREE TO DO WITH HER WHAT THEY WISHED, WITHOUT FEAR OF DISCOVERY.
THE PLAN WOULD HAVE WORKED, TOO -- SAVE THAT THEY NEVER MET WOLVERINE, NOR RECKONED WITH HIS ENHANCED SENSES.

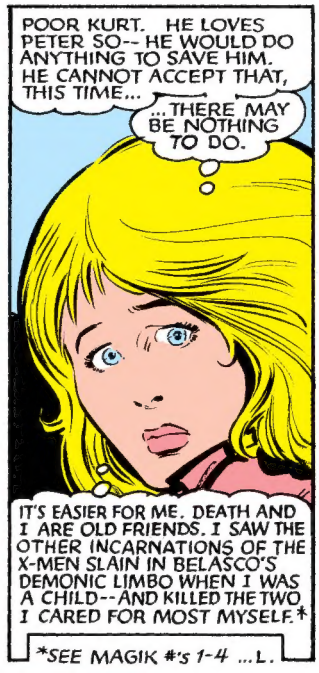

AN HOUR'S DRIVE UPSTATE, MEANWHILE...
...IN THE VENERABLE MANSION THAT SERVES AS THE X-MEN'S HOME AND SECRET HEADQUARTERS...


...NIGHTCRAWLER -- TOGETHER WITH THE TEAM'S FOUNDER AND MENTOR, CHARLES XAVIER -- WORK DESPERATELY TO SAVE THE LIFE OF COLOSSUS, CRITICALLY, PERHAPS MORTALLY, WOUNDED BY THE BROTHERHOOD EARLIER THIS EVENING.
THE SWINE! PYRO HEATED PETER WHITE-HOT, THEN AVALANCHE SMOTHERED HIM IN LIQUID NITROGEN -- NEAR ABSOLUTE-ZERO COLD.
IT'S A MIRACLE THE STRESS DIDN'T IMMEDIATELY SHATTER COLOSSUS' ARMORED BODY. FROM HIS EXPRESSION, THE AGONY MUST HAVE BEEN BEYOND-BELIEF.

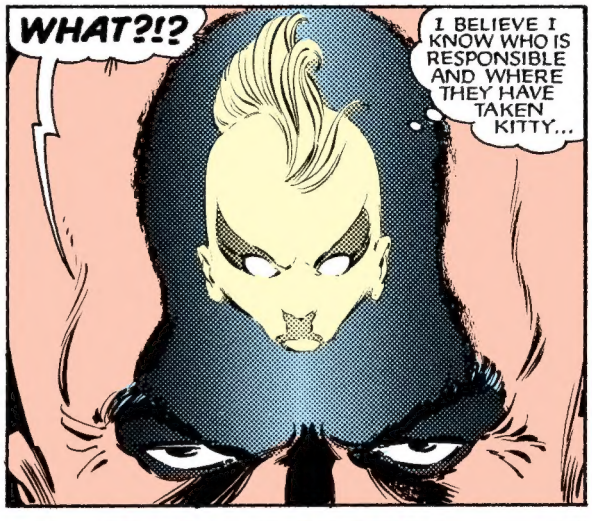
I CAN'T HEAR A HEARTBEAT, PROFESSOR. BUT WHEN PETER IS ARMORED, I'M NOT EVEN SURE HE HAS ONE.
THE BIO-SCANS AREN'T PICKING UP ANY POSITIVE READINGS, EITHER.
SUPPOSE HE IS ALIVE, SUPPOSE WE RESTORE HIM TO HUMAN FORM -- WHAT THEN?! HIS STEEL BODY IS DEEPLY SCARRED AND PITTED -- THE ORGANIC ANALOG WOULD BE WOUNDS TOO TERRIBLE FOR ANYONE TO SURVIVE.

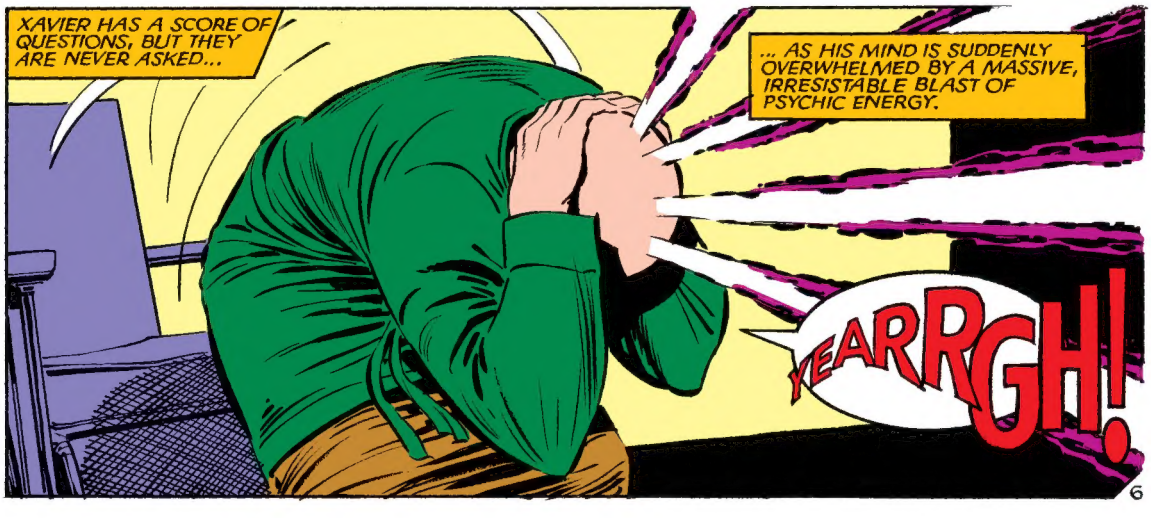

WHAT ALTERNATIVE HAVE WE, KURT? WE CANNOT GIVE UP.
HAVE YOUR PSI-PROBES DISCOVERED ANYTHING?
NO. BUT WHETHER THAT MEANS COLOSSUS IS DEAD OR MERELY IN DEEP SHOCK, I HAVE YET TO DETERMINE.

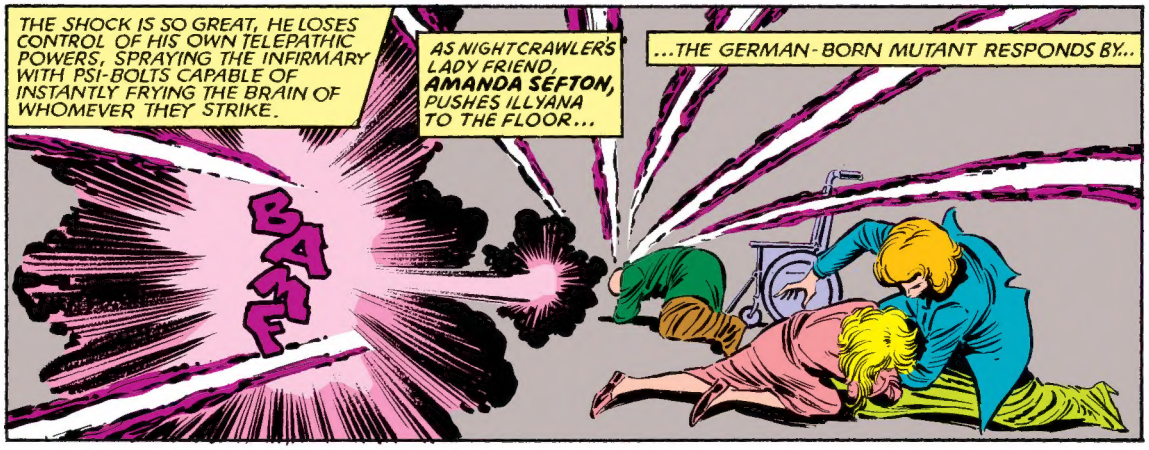
AWFUL AS THIS IS FOR US, IT MUST BE MUCH, MUCH WORSE FOR ILLYANA-- TO LOSE KITTY, HER BEST FRIEND, AND POSSIBLY HER BROTHER IN THE SAME NIGHT.
MY BELIEFS TELL ME TO FORGIVE MY ENEMIES--
--BUT WHAT I WANT TO DO MOST IS TRACK DOWN THE BROTHERHOOD AND RIP OUT THEIR ACCURSED HEARTS!


POOR KURT. HE LOVES PETER SO-- HE WOULD DO ANYTHING TO SAVE HIM. HE CANNOT ACCEPT THAT, THIS TIME...
...THERE MAY BE NOTHING TO DO.
IT'S EASIER FOR ME. DEATH AND I ARE OLD FRIENDS. I SAW THE OTHER INCARNATIONS OF THE X-MEN SLAIN IN BELASCO'S DEMONIC LIMBO WHEN I WAS A CHILD--AND KILLED THE TWO I CARED FOR MOST MYSELF.*
*SEE MAGIK #'s 1-4 ...L.

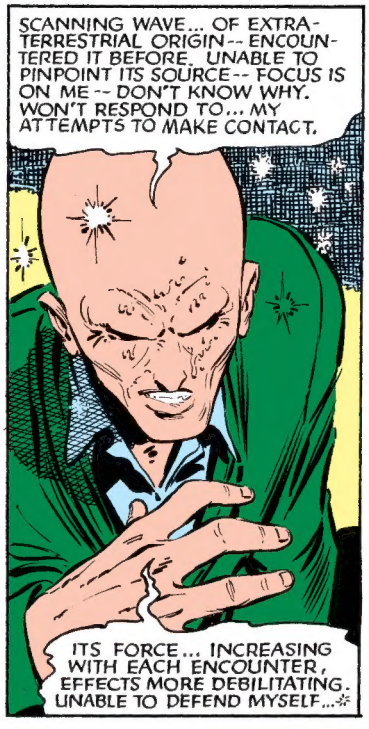
PROFESSOR, CAN YOU HEAR MY THOUGHTS?
QUITE CLEARLY, STORM. YOU'RE STILL IN NEW YORK, IS THERE SOME PROBLEM?
WOLVERINE INSISTS THE SLAIN GIRL IS NOT KITTY, BUT A PERFECT DUPLICATION. I AM INCLINED TO AGREE.


WHAT?!?
I BELIEVE I KNOW WHO IS RESPONSIBLE AND WHERE THEY HAVE TAKEN KITTY...

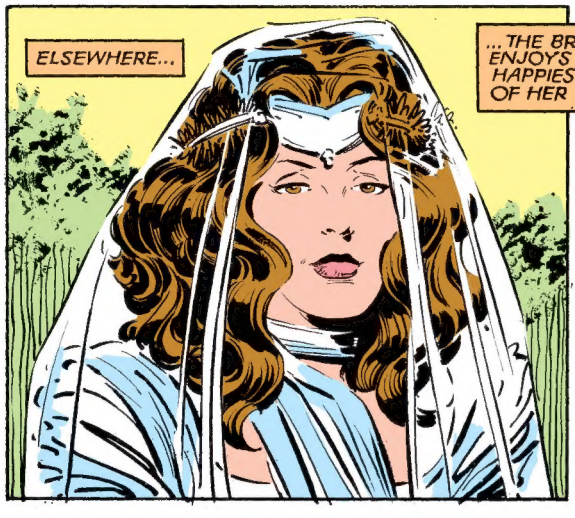

XAVIER HAS A SCORE OF QUESTIONS, BUT THEY ARE NEVER ASKED...
... AS HIS MIND IS SUDDENLY OVERWHELMED BY A MASSIVE, IRRESISTABLE BLAST OF PSYCHIC ENERGY.
YEARRGH!

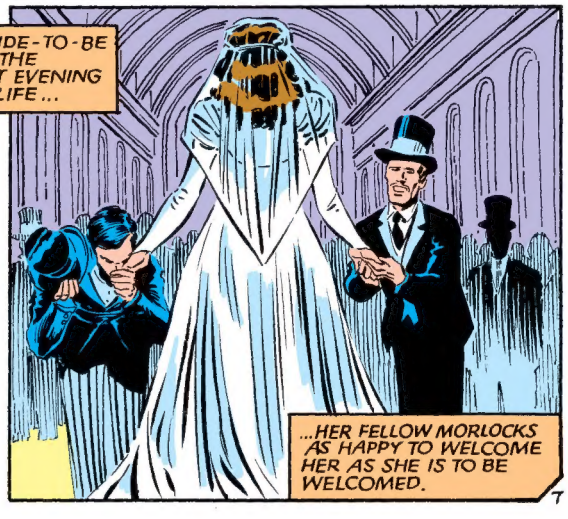

THE SHOCK IS SO GREAT, HE LOSES CONTROL OF HIS OWN TELEPATHIC POWERS, SPRAYING THE INFIRMARY WITH PSI-BOLTS CAPABLE OF INSTANTLY FRYING THE BRAIN OF WHOMEVER THEY STRIKE.
AS NIGHTCRAWLER'S LADY FRIEND, AMANDA SEFTON, PUSHES ILLYANA TO THE FLOOR...
...THE GERMAN-BORN MUTANT RESPONDS BY...
BAM

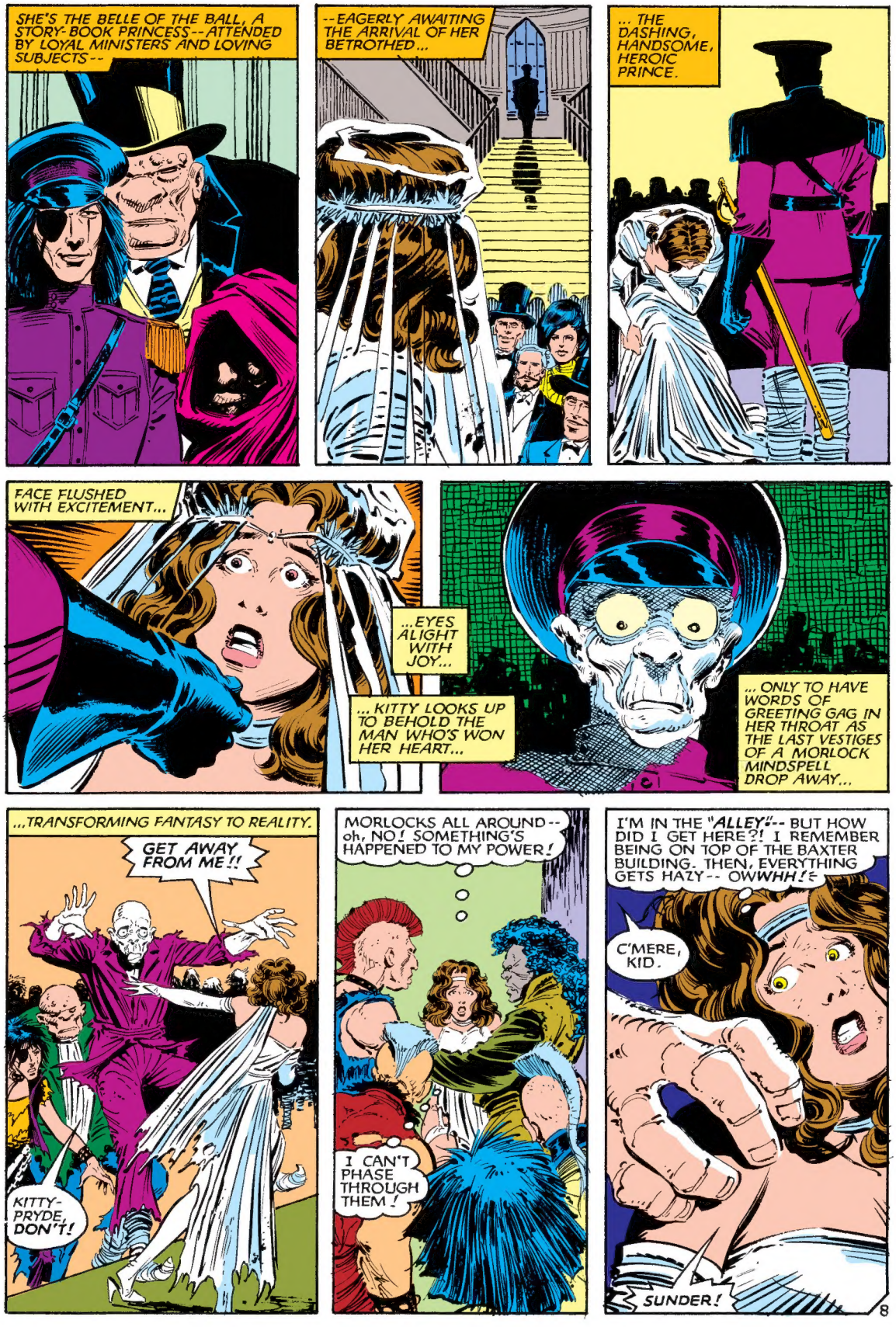
...TELEPORTING TO HIS TEACHERS' SIDE.
HERR PROFESSOR, GET AHOLD OF YOURSELF, BEFORE YOU KILL US ALL!
PERHAPS I SHOULD SEDATE HIM-- OR WILL THAT ONLY MAKE MATTERS WORSE?
AAAHHHH -- MY HEAD... NEVER IMAGINED SUCH PAIN...

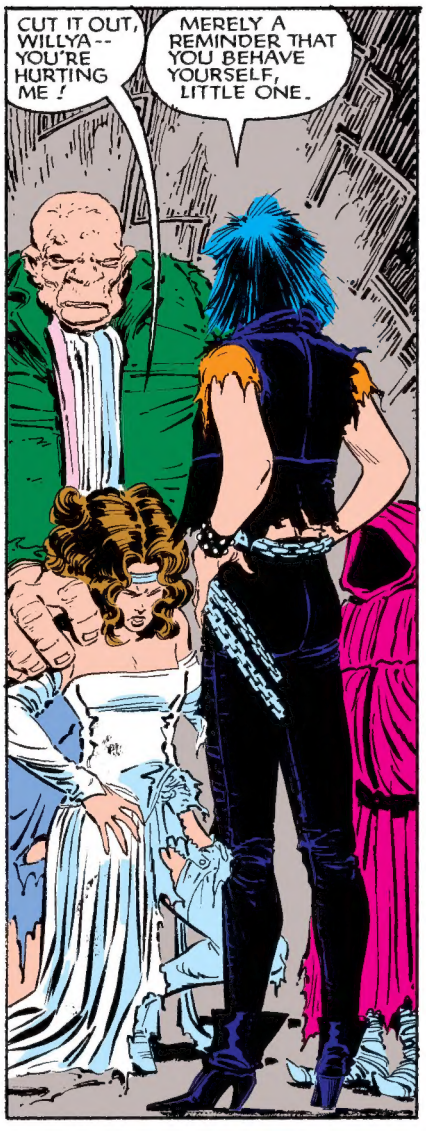

SCANNING WAVE... OF EXTRA-TERRESTRIAL ORIGIN-- ENCOUNTERED IT BEFORE. UNABLE TO PINPOINT ITS SOURCE-- FOCUS IS ON ME -- DON'T KNOW WHY. WON'T RESPOND TO... MY ATTEMPTS TO MAKE CONTACT.
ITS FORCE... INCREASING WITH EACH ENCOUNTER, EFFECTS MORE DEBILITATING. UNABLE TO DEFEND MYSELF...

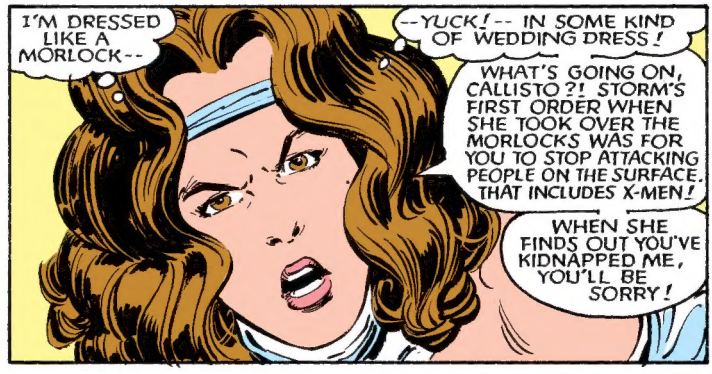
PROFESSOR? PROFESSOR?!!
AMANDA, HELP ME GET HIM INTO A LIFE SUPPORT CELL!
I'VE GOT TO WARN STORM, THROUGH OUR RADIO COMLINK-- BUT OF WHAT?! IS THIS ANOTHER ATTACK, BY SOME NEW FOE?!
WHAT IS HAPPENING, WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?!!

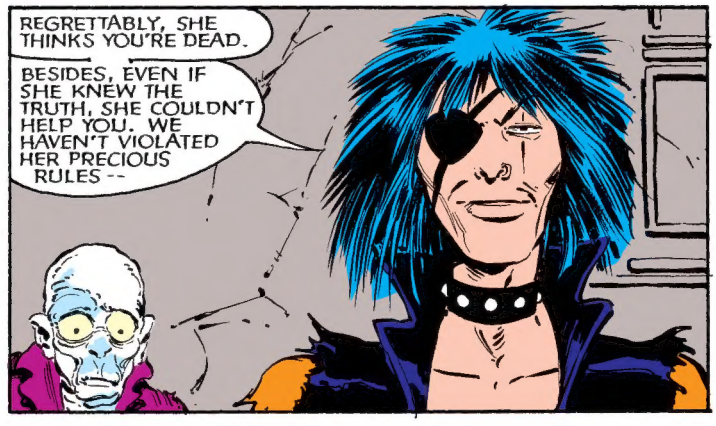

ELSEWHERE...

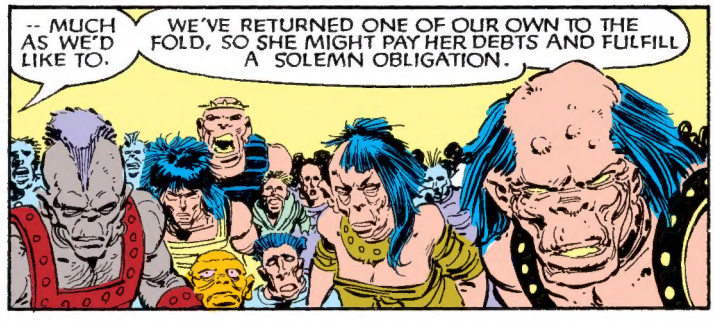

...THE BRIDE-TO-BE ENJOYS THE HAPPIEST EVENING OF HER LIFE...
...HER FELLOW MORLOCKS AS HAPPY TO WELCOME HER AS SHE IS TO BE WELCOMED.


SHE'S THE BELLE OF THE BALL, A STORY-BOOK PRINCESS--ATTENDED BY LOYAL MINISTERS AND LOVING SUBJECTS--
--EAGERLY AWAITING THE ARRIVAL OF HER BETROTHED...
... THE DASHING, HANDSOME, HEROIC PRINCE.
FACE FLUSHED WITH EXCITEMENT...
...EYES ALIGHT WITH JOY...
... KITTY LOOKS UP TO BEHOLD THE MAN WHO'S WON HER HEART...
... ONLY TO HAVE WORDS OF GREETING GAG IN HER THROAT AS THE LAST VESTIGES OF A MORLOCK MINDSPELL DROP AWAY...
...TRANSFORMING FANTASY TO REALITY.
GET AWAY FROM ME!!
KITTY-PRYDE, DON'T!
MORLOCKS ALL AROUND-- oh, NO! SOMETHING'S HAPPENED TO MY POWER!
I CAN'T PHASE THROUGH THEM!
I'M IN THE "ALLEY"-- BUT HOW DID I GET HERE?! I REMEMBER BEING ON TOP OF THE BAXTER BUILDING. THEN, EVERYTHING GETS HAZY-- OWWHH!
C'MERE, KID.
SUNDER!


CUT IT OUT, WILLYA -- YOU'RE HURTING ME!
MERELY A REMINDER THAT YOU BEHAVE YOURSELF, LITTLE ONE.

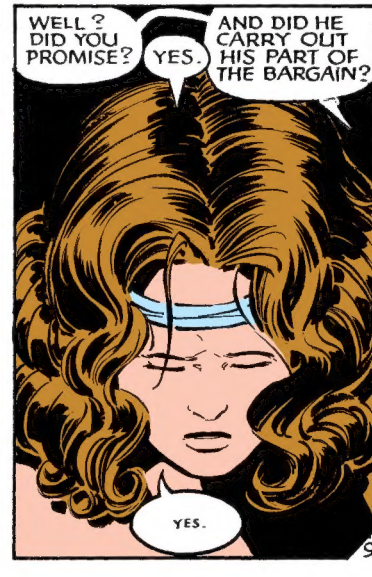

I'M DRESSED LIKE A MORLOCK--
--YUCK! -- IN SOME KIND OF WEDDING DRESS!
WHAT'S GOING ON, CALLISTO?! STORM'S FIRST ORDER WHEN SHE TOOK OVER THE MORLOCKS WAS FOR YOU TO STOP ATTACKING PEOPLE ON THE SURFACE. THAT INCLUDES X-MEN!
WHEN SHE FINDS OUT YOU'VE KIDNAPPED ME, YOU'LL BE SORRY!

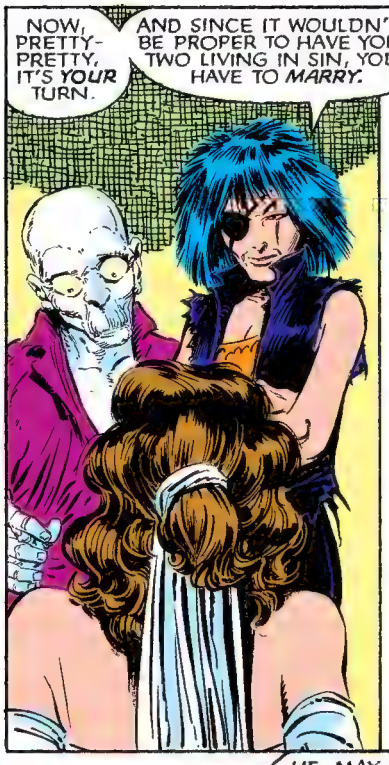

REGRETTABLY, SHE THINKS YOU'RE DEAD.
BESIDES, EVEN IF SHE KNEW THE TRUTH, SHE COULDN'T HELP YOU. WE HAVEN'T VIOLATED HER PRECIOUS RULES --

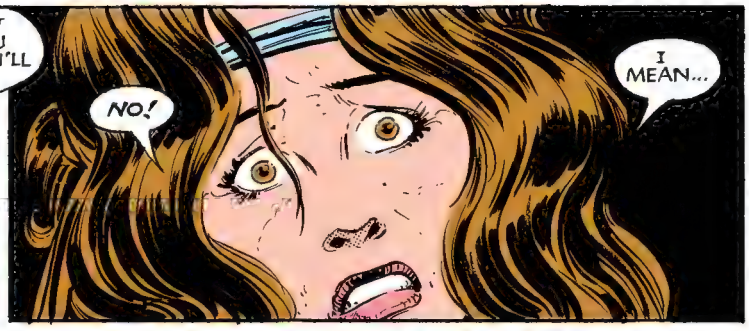

-- MUCH AS WE'D LIKE TO.
WE'VE RETURNED ONE OF OUR OWN TO THE FOLD, SO SHE MIGHT PAY HER DEBTS AND FULFILL A SOLEMN OBLIGATION.

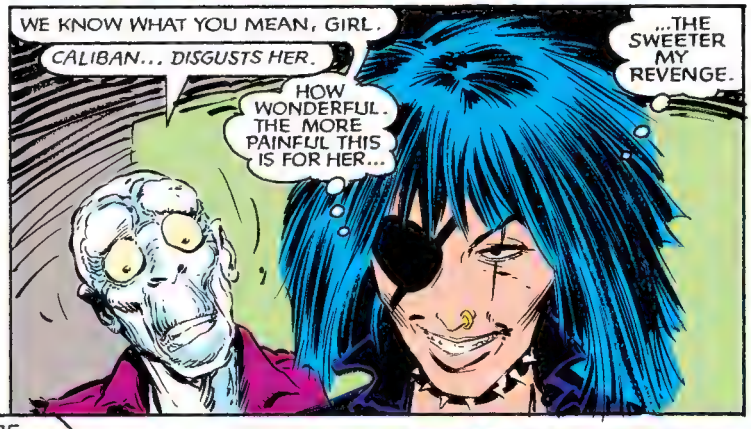
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?!
HOW QUICKLY SOME FORGET. DID YOU OR DID YOU NOT PROMISE...
...THAT IF CALIBAN AIDED THE X-MEN AGAINST ME...

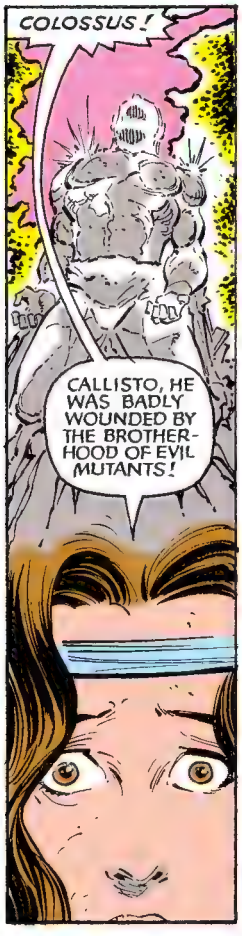
...YOU WOULD STAY WITH HIM FOREVER?
I...
...I...

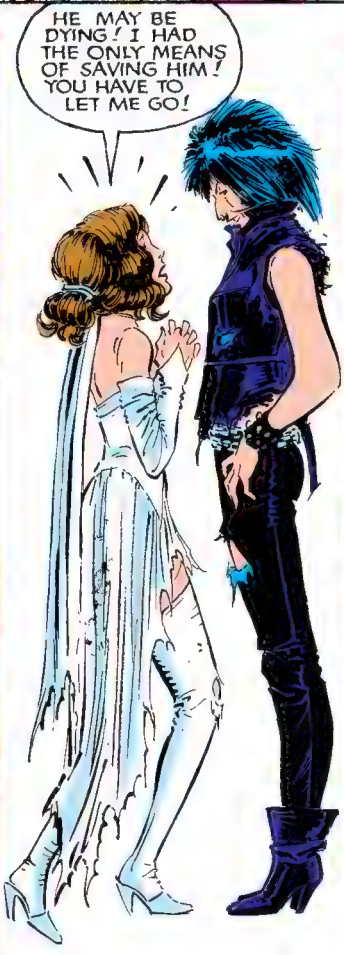

WELL? DID YOU PROMISE?
YES.
AND DID HE CARRY OUT HIS PART OF THE BARGAIN?
YES.

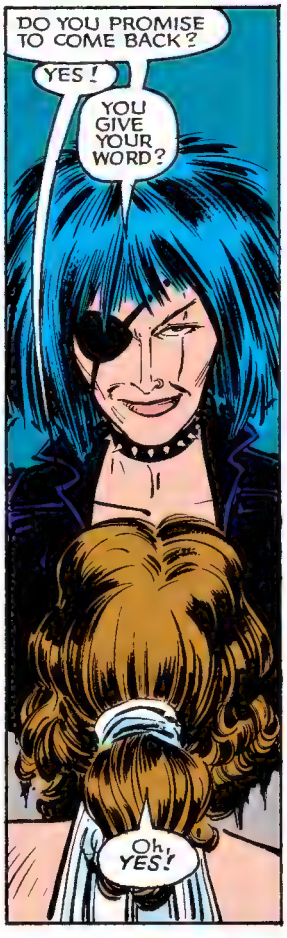

NOW, PRETTY-PRETTY, IT'S YOUR TURN.
AND SINCE IT WOULDN'T BE PROPER TO HAVE YOU TWO LIVING IN SIN, YOU'LL HAVE TO MARRY.

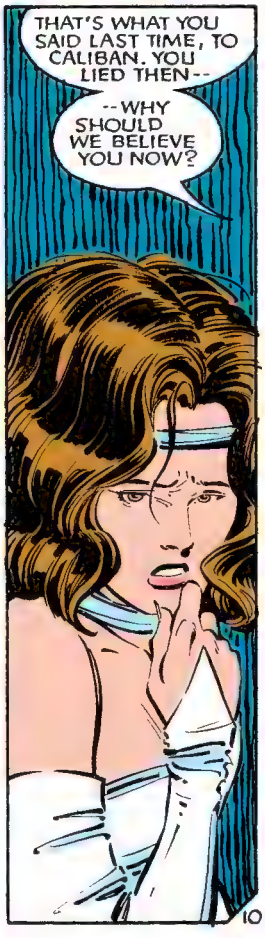

NO!
I MEAN...

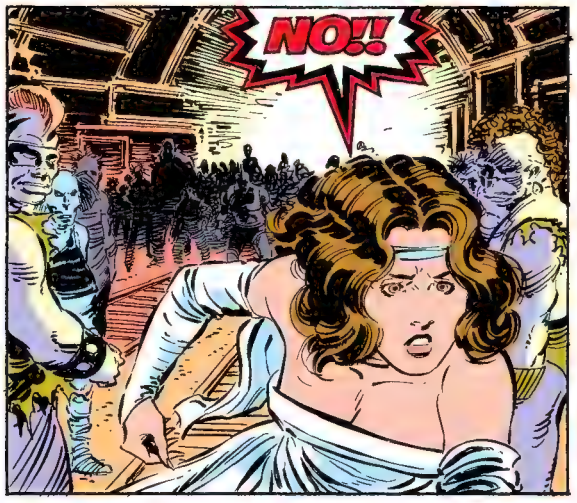

WE KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN, GIRL.
CALIBAN... DISGUSTS HER.
HOW WONDERFUL. THE MORE PAINFUL THIS IS FOR HER...
...THE SWEETER MY REVENGE.

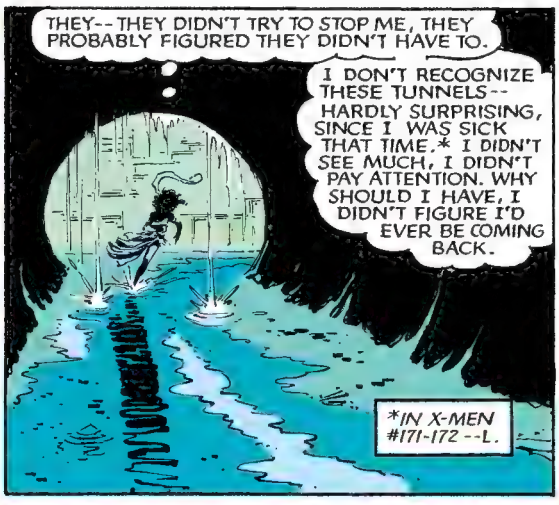

COLOSSUS!
CALLISTO, HE WAS BADLY WOUNDED BY THE BROTHERHOOD OF EVIL MUTANTS!

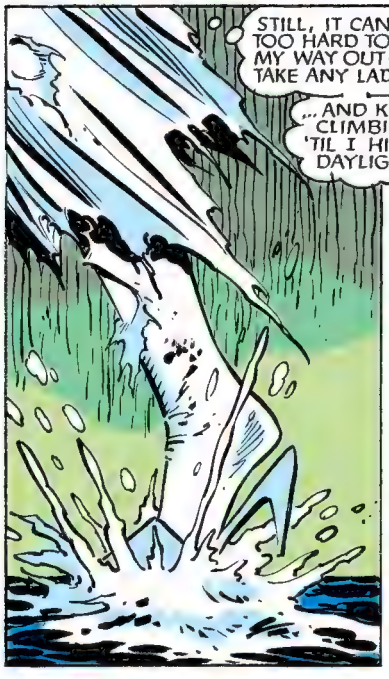

HE MAY BE DYING! I HAD THE ONLY MEANS OF SAVING HIM! YOU HAVE TO LET ME GO!

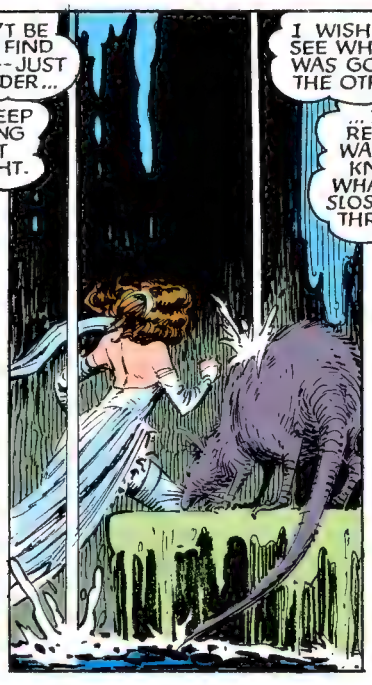

DO YOU PROMISE TO COME BACK?
YES!
YOU GIVE YOUR WORD?
Oh, YES!


THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID LAST TIME, TO CALIBAN. YOU LIED THEN--
--WHY SHOULD WE BELIEVE YOU NOW?

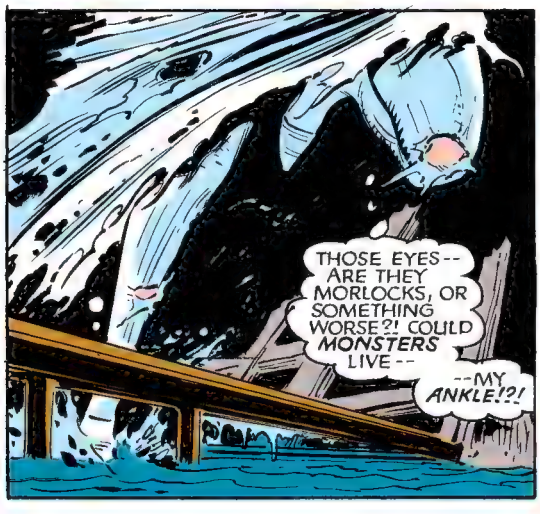

NO!!

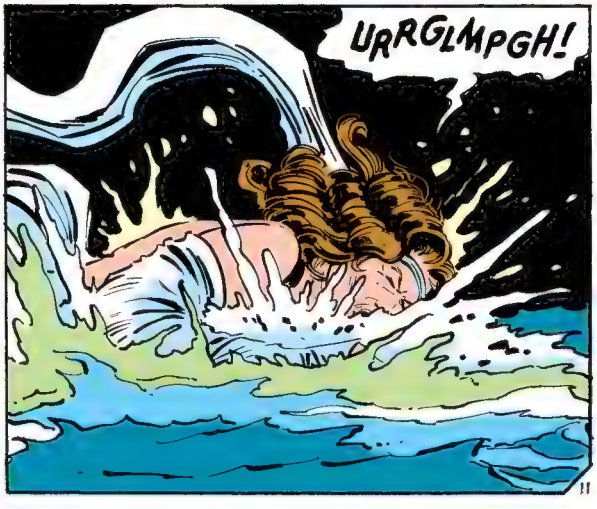

THEY-- THEY DIDN'T TRY TO STOP ME, THEY PROBABLY FIGURED THEY DIDN'T HAVE TO.
I DON'T RECOGNIZE THESE TUNNELS-- HARDLY SURPRISING, SINCE I WAS SICK THAT TIME.* I DIDN'T SEE MUCH, I DIDN'T PAY ATTENTION. WHY SHOULD I HAVE, I DIDN'T FIGURE I'D EVER BE COMING BACK.
*IN X-MEN #171-172 --L.

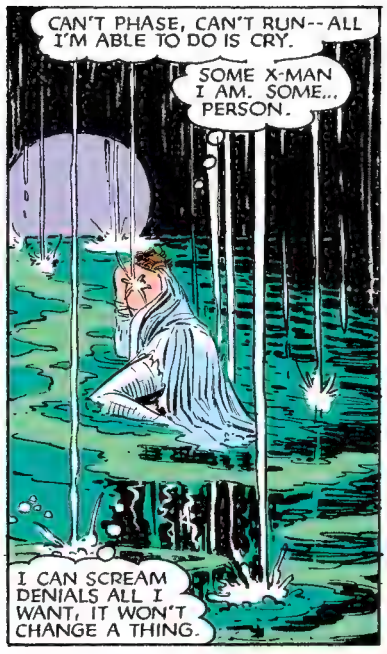

STILL, IT CAN'T BE TOO HARD TO FIND MY WAY OUT-- JUST TAKE ANY LADDER...
...AND KEEP CLIMBING 'TIL I HIT DAYLIGHT.



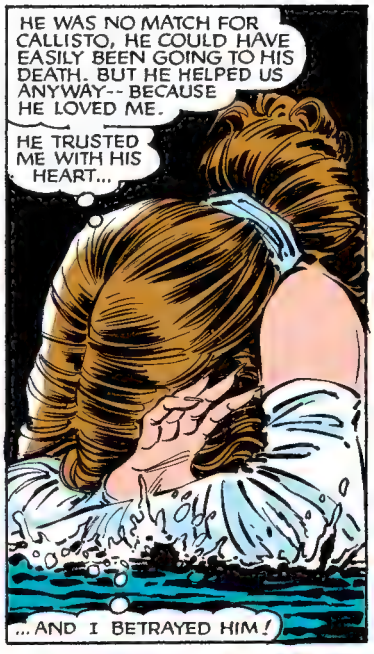
I WISH I COULD SEE WHERE I WAS GOING. ON THE OTHER HAND...
...DO I REALLY WANT TO KNOW WHAT I'M SLOSHING THROUGH--
YYIII!!

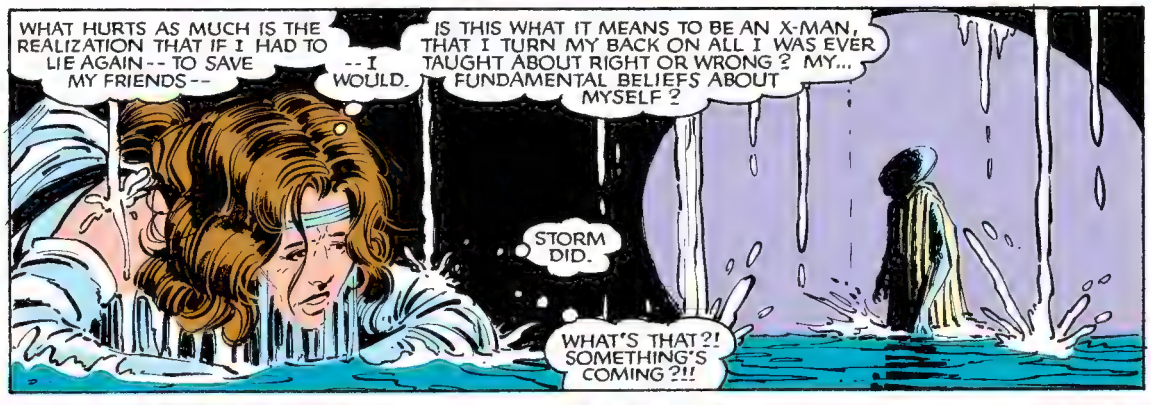

THOSE EYES-- ARE THEY MORLOCKS, OR SOMETHING WORSE?! COULD MONSTERS LIVE--
--MY ANKLE!?!


URRGLMPGH!

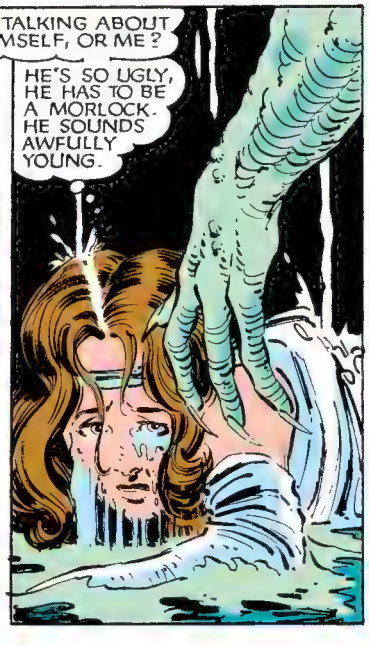

CAN'T PHASE, CAN'T RUN-- ALL I'M ABLE TO DO IS CRY.
SOME X-MAN I AM. SOME... PERSON.
I CAN SCREAM DENIALS ALL I WANT, IT WON'T CHANGE A THING.

THE X-MEN'S LIVES WERE AT STAKE. CALIBAN WAS MY ONLY HOPE. I THINK I'D HAVE SAID-- AND... DONE-- ANYTHING TO GET HIM TO HELP.
I DIDN'T ASK HIM TO SUCCEED, ONLY TO TRY.


HE WAS NO MATCH FOR CALLISTO, HE COULD HAVE EASILY BEEN GOING TO HIS DEATH. BUT HE HELPED US ANYWAY-- BECAUSE HE LOVED ME.
HE TRUSTED ME WITH HIS HEART...
...AND I BETRAYED HIM!

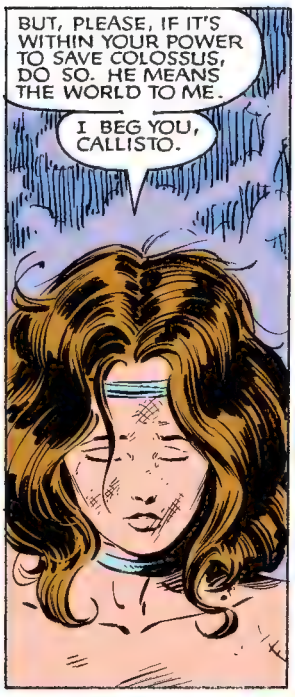

WHAT HURTS AS MUCH IS THE REALIZATION THAT IF I HAD TO LIE AGAIN-- TO SAVE MY FRIENDS--
--I WOULD.
IS THIS WHAT IT MEANS TO BE AN X-MAN, THAT I TURN MY BACK ON ALL I WAS EVER TAUGHT ABOUT RIGHT OR WRONG? MY... FUNDAMENTAL BELIEFS ABOUT MYSELF?
STORM DID.
WHAT'S THAT?! SOMETHING'S COMING?!!

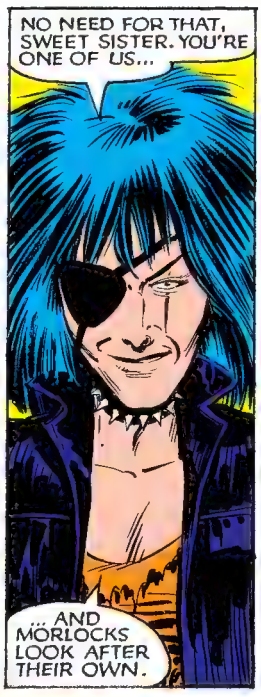
LOST.
LONELY.
SCARED.


HE TALKING ABOUT HIMSELF, OR ME?
HE'S SO UGLY, HE HAS TO BE A MORLOCK. HE SOUNDS AWFULLY YOUNG.

I SHOULD LEAVE HIM. I SHOULD KEEP RUNNING.
BUT HOW FAR DO I GO...
...TO GET AWAY FROM MY CONSCIENCE?

WELCOME ...
... HOME.
HOW NICE OF YOU TO BRING ONE OF OUR STRAYS WITH YOU.
I GAVE MY WORD, CALLISTO. I'LL KEEP IT.
I KNEW YOU WOULD.

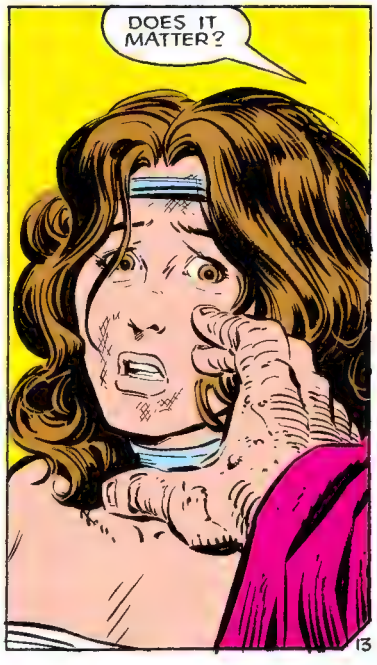

BUT, PLEASE, IF IT'S WITHIN YOUR POWER TO SAVE COLOSSUS, DO SO. HE MEANS THE WORLD TO ME.
I BEG YOU, CALLISTO.

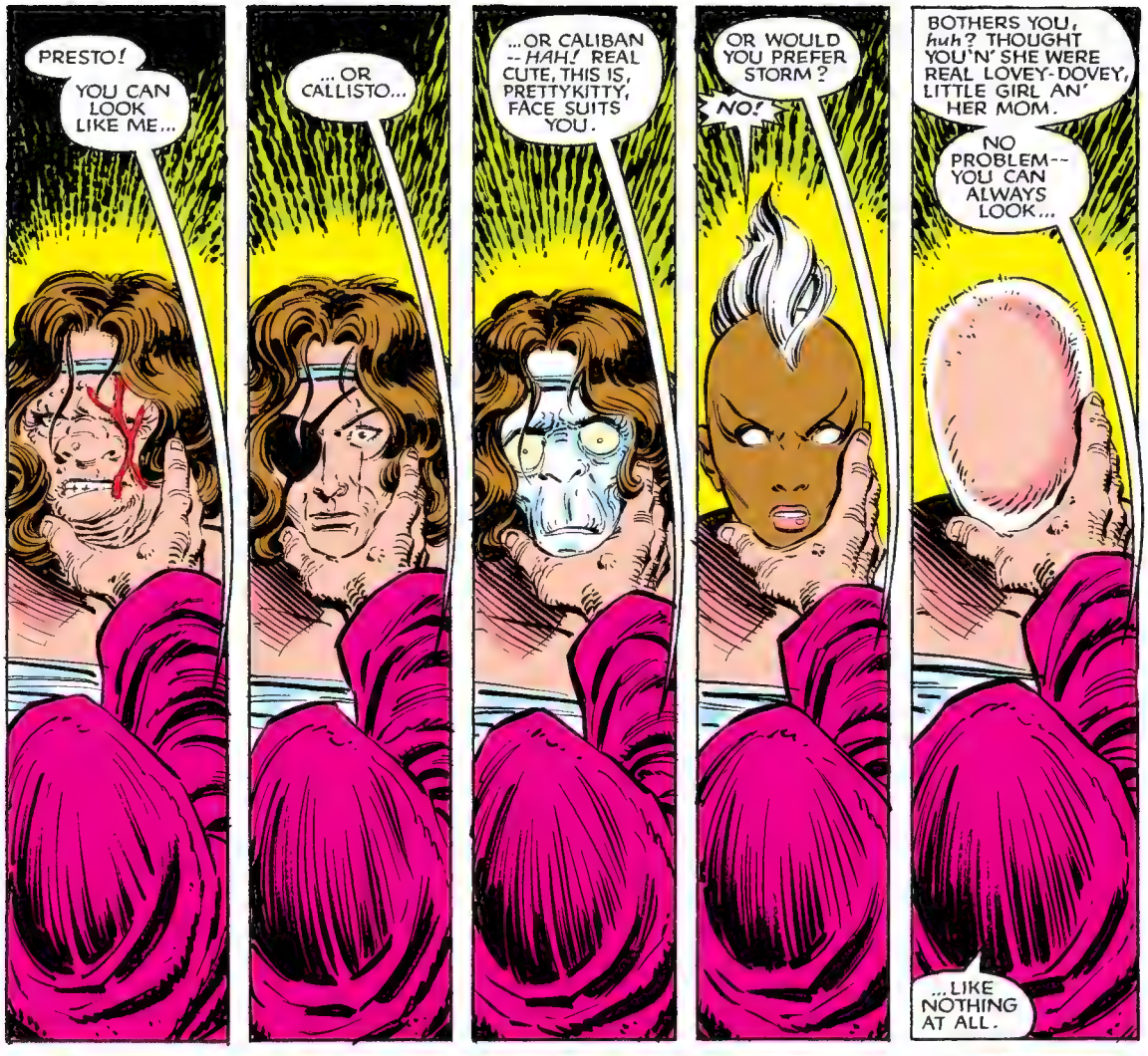

NO NEED FOR THAT, SWEET SISTER. YOU'RE ONE OF US...
... AND MORLOCKS LOOK AFTER THEIR OWN.

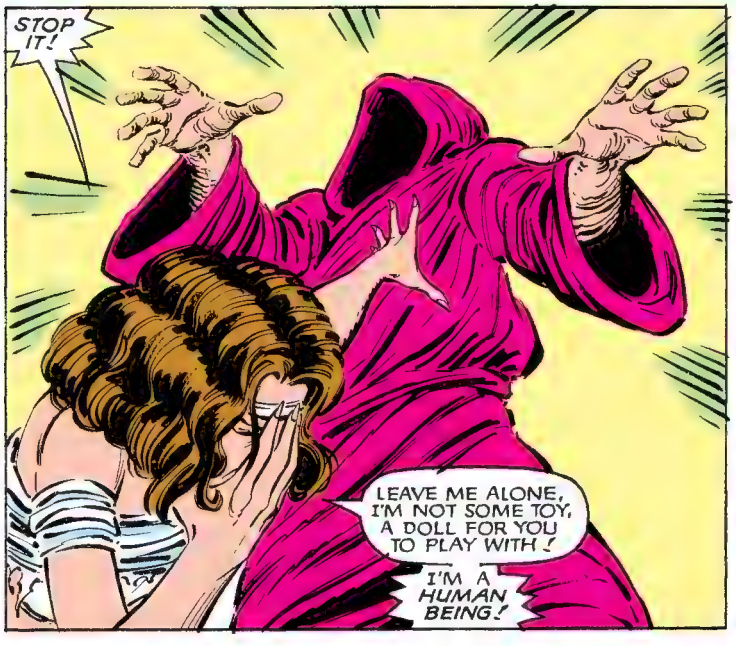
MAKE YOURSELF USEFUL, LEECH. FIND THE HEALER.
JO, OUR BABY BRIDE'S GOTTEN HERSELF A BIT MUSSED-- MAKE HER PRESENTABLE...

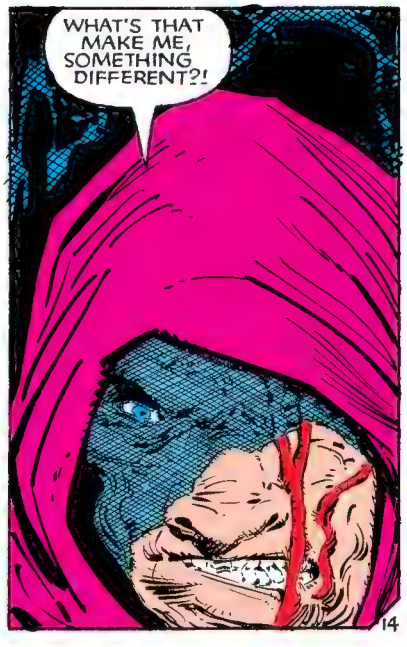
"...THEN BRING HER TO *MASQUE.*"
YOU BECOME MORLOCK, YOU GET NEW FACE-- IF YOU LIKE, WHOLE NEW BODY.
WHY?

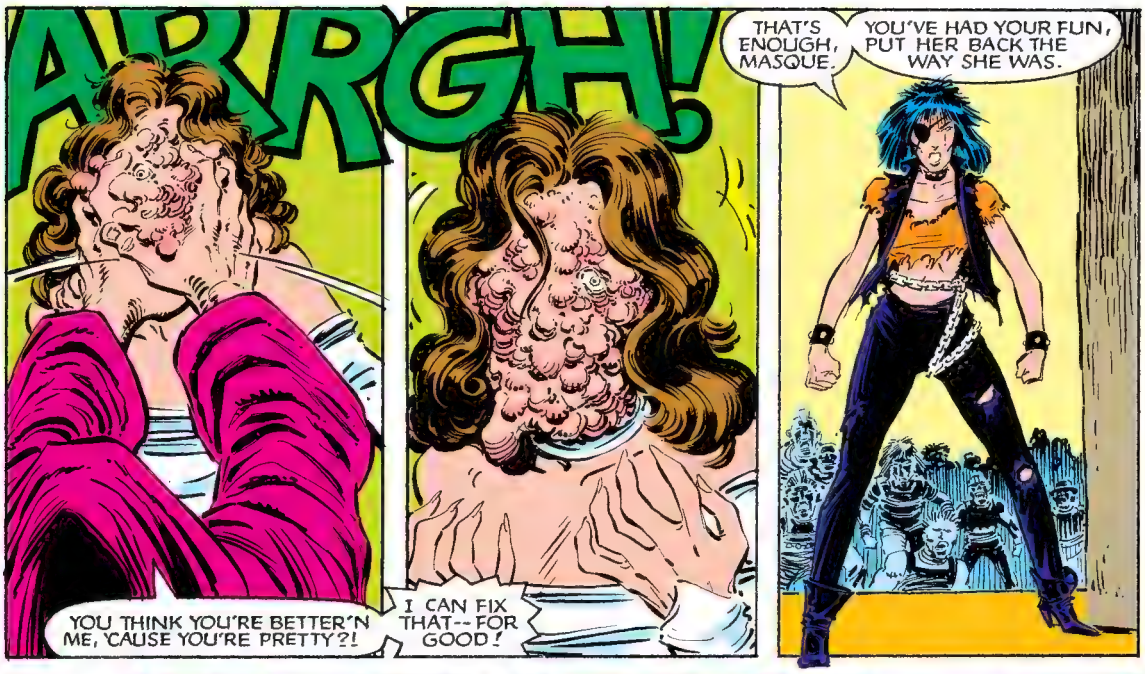
WE OUTCASTS-- OUTLAWS! THIS SYMBOLIZES REJECTION BY YOU OF LIFE YOU LED, WORLD YOU KNEW...
...PEOPLE YOU LOVED.
WILL IT HURT?


DOES IT MATTER?


PRESTO!
YOU CAN LOOK LIKE ME...
...OR CALLISTO...
...OR CALIBAN -- HAH! REAL CUTE, THIS IS, PRETTYKITTY, FACE SUITS YOU.
OR WOULD YOU PREFER STORM?
NO!
BOTHERS YOU, huh? THOUGHT YOU'N' SHE WERE REAL LOVEY-DOVEY, LITTLE GIRL AN' HER MOM.
NO PROBLEM-- YOU CAN ALWAYS LOOK...
...LIKE NOTHING AT ALL.


STOP IT!
LEAVE ME ALONE, I'M NOT SOME TOY, A DOLL FOR YOU TO PLAY WITH!
I'M A HUMAN BEING!


WHAT'S THAT MAKE ME, SOMETHING DIFFERENT?!

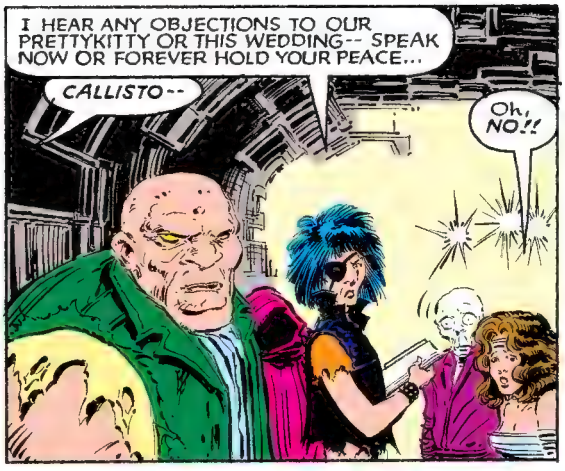

ARRGH!
YOU THINK YOU'RE BETTER'N ME, 'CAUSE YOU'RE PRETTY?!
I CAN FIX THAT--FOR GOOD!
THAT'S ENOUGH, MASQUE.
YOU'VE HAD YOUR FUN, PUT HER BACK THE WAY SHE WAS.

I LIKE HER BETTER THIS WAY.
IT WASN'T A REQUEST.
SHE CAN'T BREATHE--FIX HER BEFORE SHE CHOKES.

RELUCTANTLY, MASQUE DOES AS HE'S TOLD AND A BIT LATER, KITTY STANDS BESIDE CALIBAN IN THE ALLEY...
...TRYING NOT TO TREMBLE OR CRY AS CALLISTO READS THE MARRIAGE SERVICE.
WE'RE GATHERED TO CELEBRATE AND SANCTIFY NOT MERELY THE UNION OF THIS GIRL TO THIS MAN...

...BUT TO THE MORLOCKS AS WELL.
MOST OF US ARE HERE BECAUSE WE HAD NOWHERE ELSE TO GO. SOCIETY DIDN'T GIVE US A CHOICE, WE BECAME OUTCASTS IN SPIRIT LONG BEFORE WE EVER HEARD THE WORD MUTANT.

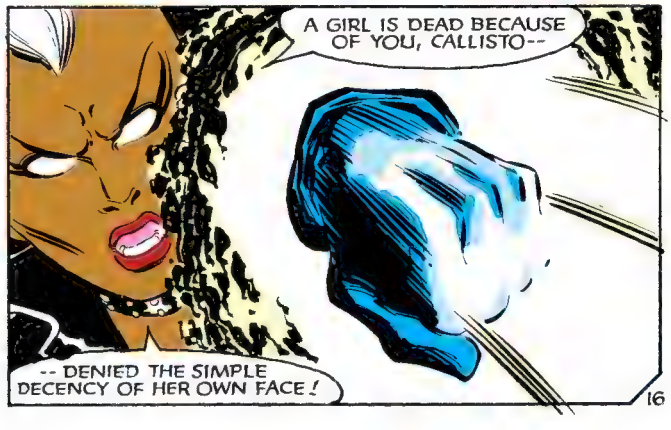
THE KID'S GIVING UP EVERYTHING SHE HOLDS DEAR. WE MAY NOT LIKE HER, BUT WE HAVE TO RESPECT HER COURAGE.
I SURE DIDN'T THINK SHE HAD IT IN HER.


I HEAR ANY OBJECTIONS TO OUR PRETTYKITTY OR THIS WEDDING-- SPEAK NOW OR FOREVER HOLD YOUR PEACE...
CALLISTO--
Oh, NO!!

-- I DO!
KITTY'S OKAY! THANK HEAVEN! BUT THEN-- WHO'S THE GIRL IN THE MORGUE?
LET'S FIND OUT.

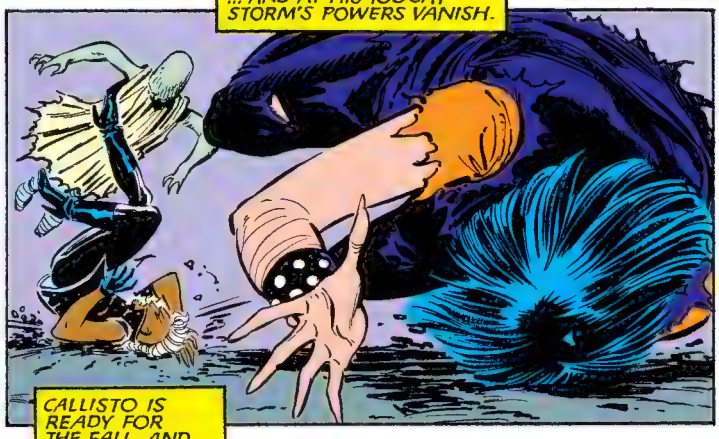
NO, WOLVERINE.
I LEAD THE MORLOCKS. LEAVE THIS TO ME.

STORM, STAY OUT OF THIS!
I'M NOT BEING FORCED, I'M DOING THIS OF MY OWN FREE WILL!
SHE ISN'T LISTENING, WHY WON'T SHE LISTEN?!

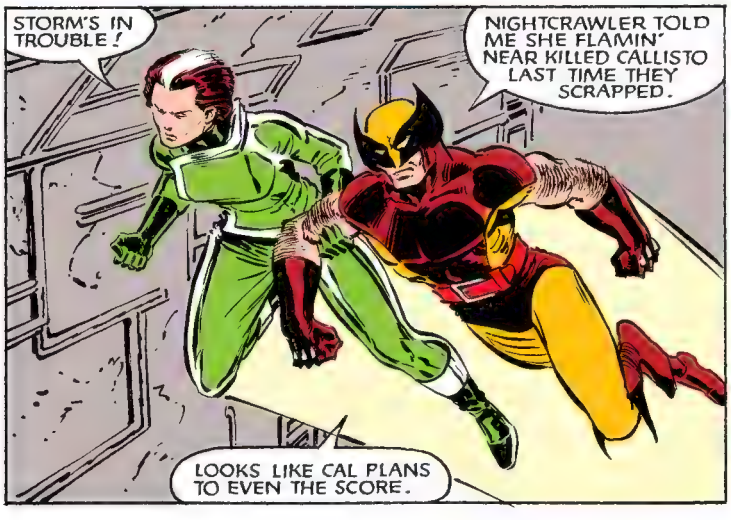

A GIRL IS DEAD BECAUSE OF YOU, CALLISTO--
-- DENIED THE SIMPLE DECENCY OF HER OWN FACE!

MY, YOU'RE ON A SHORT FUSE THESE DAYS!
WIND BLAST, SWEEPING ME TO THE TOP OF THE ALLEY.
POOR OLD STORM, PREDICTABLE AS EVER.
LEECH-- NAIL THE WEATHER-WITCH!

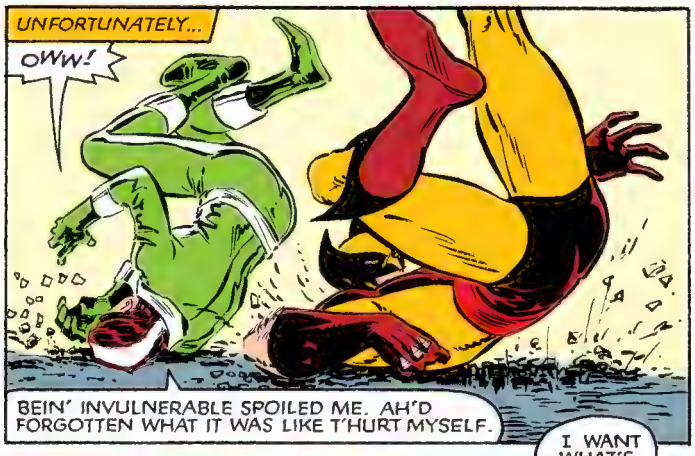
WHAT--?!!
HE DROPS FROM THE CEILING SHADOWS, WHERE HE LIVES...


... AND AT HIS TOUCH, STORM'S POWERS VANISH.
CALLISTO IS READY FOR THE FALL, AND CONSEQUENTLY...

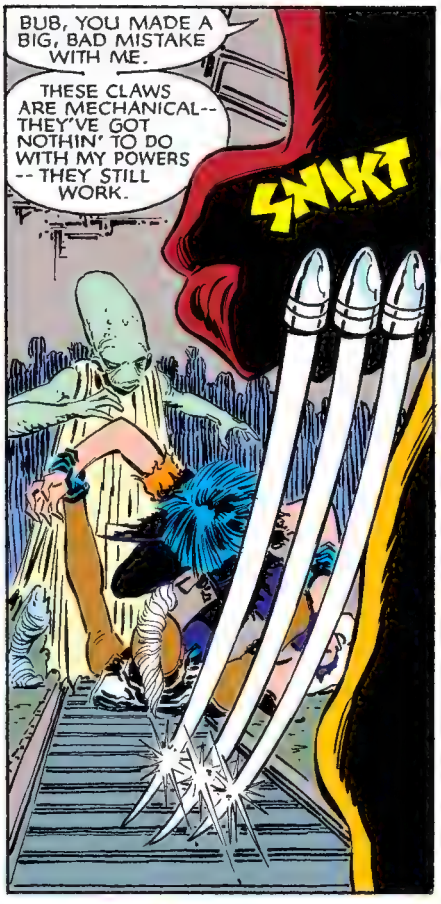
... IS THE FIRST ON HER FEET.

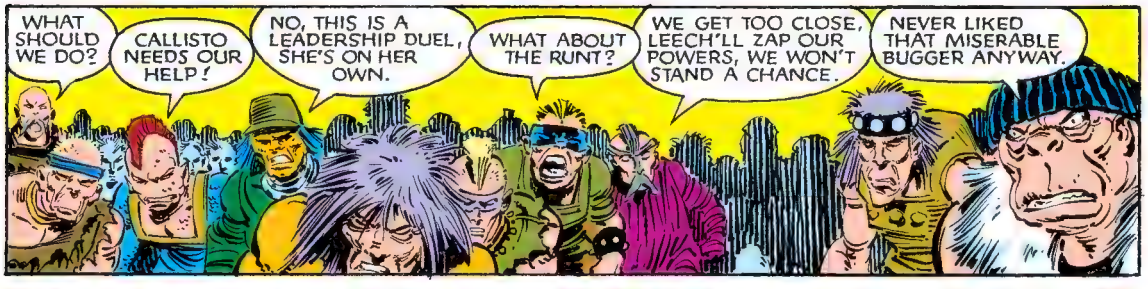

STORM'S IN TROUBLE!
NIGHTCRAWLER TOLD ME SHE FLAMIN' NEAR KILLED CALLISTO LAST TIME THEY SCRAPPED.
LOOKS LIKE CAL PLANS TO EVEN THE SCORE.

ROGUE, DON'T GO NEAR LEECH!
HE MUST BE WHY I COULDN'T PHASE BEFORE. CALLISTO MUST HAVE HAD HIM NEARBY, IN THE CROWD.
PHYSICAL CONTACT ISN'T NECESSARY-- CLOSE PROXIMITY IS ALL HE NEEDS TO AFFECT YOU!

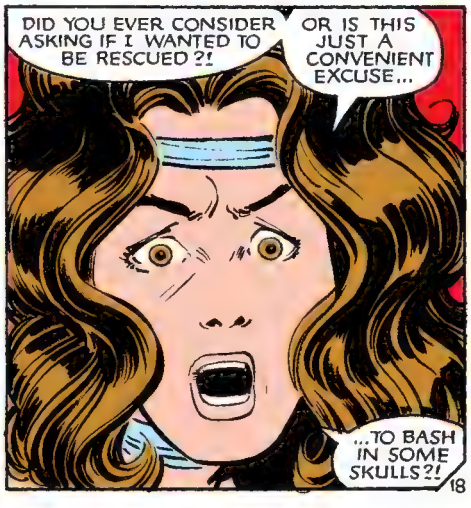

UNFORTUNATELY...
OWW!
BEIN' INVULNERABLE SPOILED ME. AH'D FORGOTTEN WHAT IT WAS LIKE T'HURT MYSELF.

I WANT WHAT'S MINE...
... BY RIGHT!
I NEEDED NO POWERS TO BEAT YOU BEFORE, CALLISTO. AND I WAS A GENTLER WOMAN THEN.

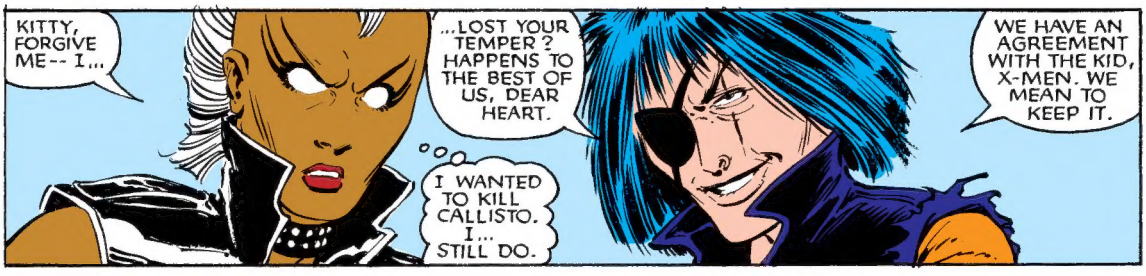

BUB, YOU MADE A BIG, BAD MISTAKE WITH ME.
THESE CLAWS ARE MECHANICAL-- THEY'VE GOT NOTHIN' TO DO WITH MY POWERS -- THEY STILL WORK.
SNIKT

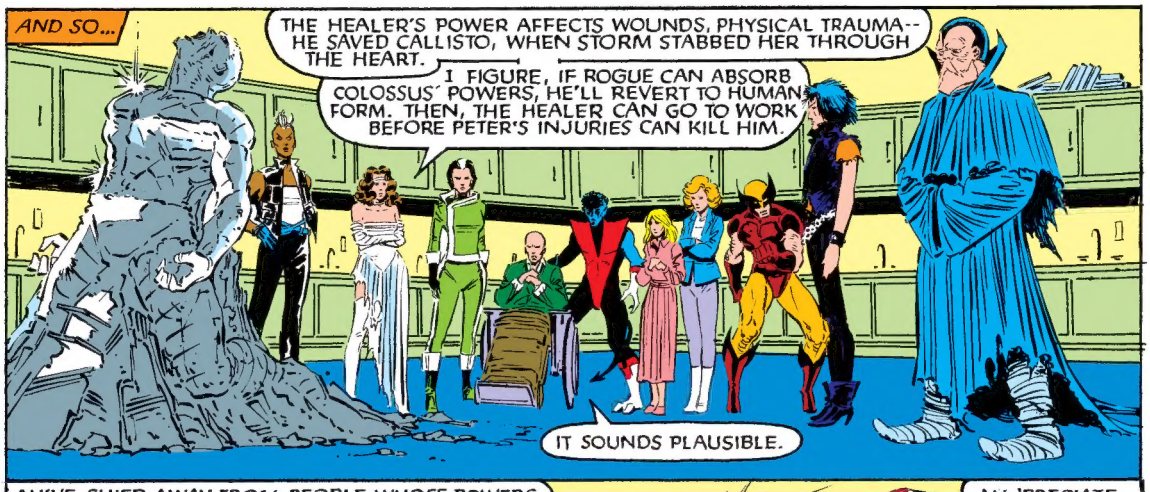

WHAT SHOULD WE DO?
CALLISTO NEEDS OUR HELP!
NO, THIS IS A LEADERSHIP DUEL, SHE'S ON HER OWN.
WHAT ABOUT THE RUNT?
WE GET TOO CLOSE, LEECH'LL ZAP OUR POWERS, WE WON'T STAND A CHANCE.
NEVER LIKED THAT MISERABLE BUGGER ANYWAY.

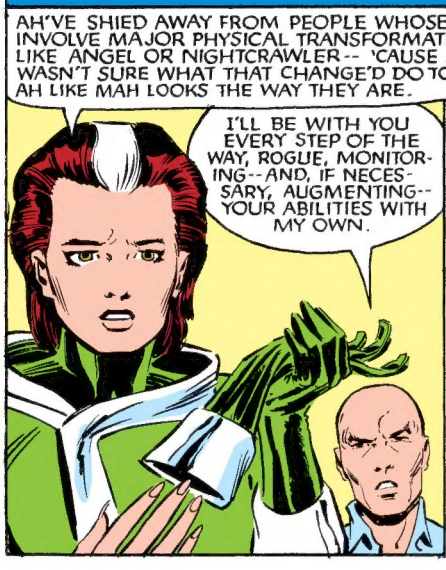
WOLVERINE--LOGAN--SHEATHE YOUR CLAWS!!
WHY'RE YOU GIVIN' ME GRIEF, PUN'KIN? WE'VE COME TO RESCUE YOU?

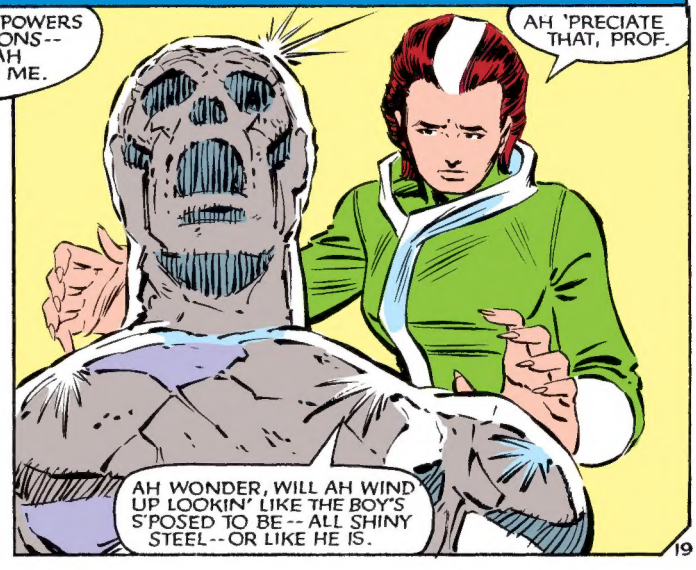

DID YOU EVER CONSIDER ASKING IF I WANTED TO BE RESCUED?!
OR IS THIS JUST A CONVENIENT EXCUSE...
...TO BASH IN SOME SKULLS?!

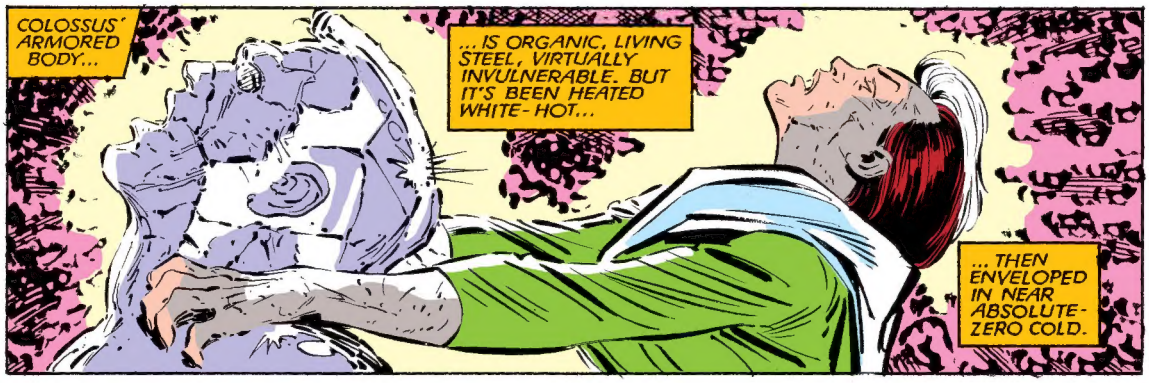
THIS MESS IS MY FAULT--
--MY RESPONSIBILITY-- AND IT'S UP TO ME ALONE TO RESOLVE IT. I'VE BROUGHT ENOUGH PEOPLE PAIN, I WON'T BE PARTY TO CAUSING ANY MORE.
COLOSSUS IS WHAT'S IMPORTANT-- WITH THE MORLOCKS' HELP, WE MIGHT HAVE A WAY TO SAVE HIM! BUT IF HE DOESN'T MATTER-- IF YOU'D RATHER RIP EACH OTHERS' HEARTS OUT-- WHAT THE HECK, GO RIGHT AHEAD!

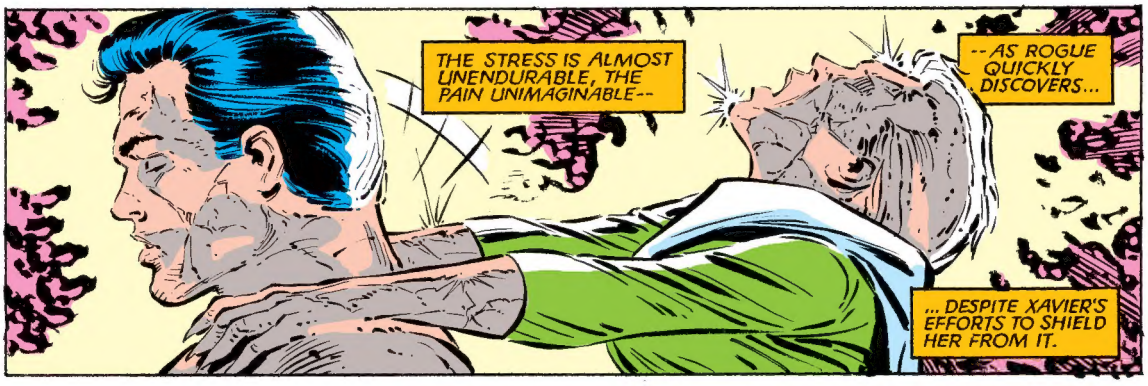

KITTY, FORGIVE ME-- I...
...LOST YOUR TEMPER? HAPPENS TO THE BEST OF US, DEAR HEART.
I WANTED TO KILL CALLISTO. I... STILL DO.
WE HAVE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE KID, X-MEN. WE MEAN TO KEEP IT.


AND SO...
THE HEALER'S POWER AFFECTS WOUNDS, PHYSICAL TRAUMA-- HE SAVED CALLISTO, WHEN STORM STABBED HER THROUGH THE HEART.
I FIGURE, IF ROGUE CAN ABSORB COLOSSUS' POWERS, HE'LL REVERT TO HUMAN FORM. THEN, THE HEALER CAN GO TO WORK BEFORE PETER'S INJURIES CAN KILL HIM.
IT SOUNDS PLAUSIBLE.


AH'VE SHIED AWAY FROM PEOPLE WHOSE POWERS INVOLVE MAJOR PHYSICAL TRANSFORMATIONS-- LIKE ANGEL OR NIGHTCRAWLER-- 'CAUSE AH WASN'T SURE WHAT THAT CHANGE'D DO TO ME. AH LIKE MAH LOOKS THE WAY THEY ARE.
I'LL BE WITH YOU EVERY STEP OF THE WAY, ROGUE, MONITORING--AND, IF NECESSARY, AUGMENTING-- YOUR ABILITIES WITH MY OWN.


AH 'PRECIATE THAT, PROF.
AH WONDER, WILL AH WIND UP LOOKIN' LIKE THE BOY'S S'POSED TO BE-- ALL SHINY STEEL--OR LIKE HE IS.


COLOSSUS' ARMORED BODY...
...IS ORGANIC, LIVING STEEL, VIRTUALLY INVULNERABLE. BUT IT'S BEEN HEATED WHITE-HOT...
...THEN ENVELOPED IN NEAR ABSOLUTE-ZERO COLD.

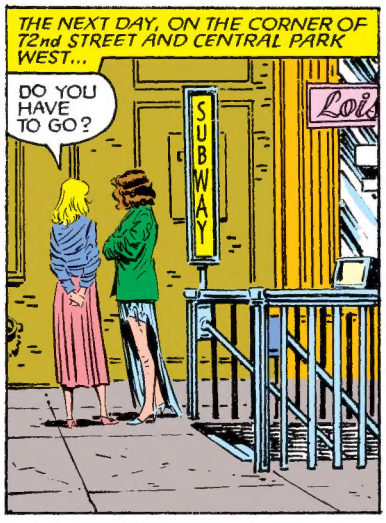

THE STRESS IS ALMOST UNENDURABLE, THE PAIN UNIMAGINABLE--
--AS ROGUE QUICKLY DISCOVERS...
...DESPITE XAVIER'S EFFORTS TO SHIELD HER FROM IT.

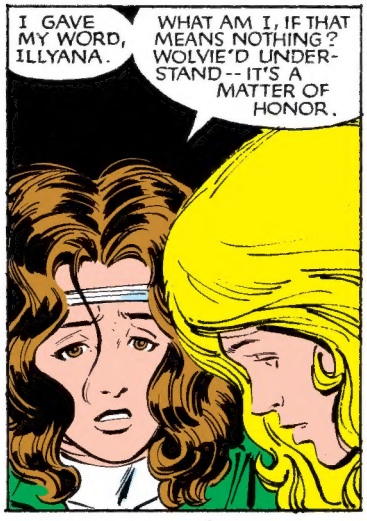
GODDESS-- THE POOR CHILD.
WHATEVER HER PAST, THIS HAS EARNED HER PLACE WITH US.

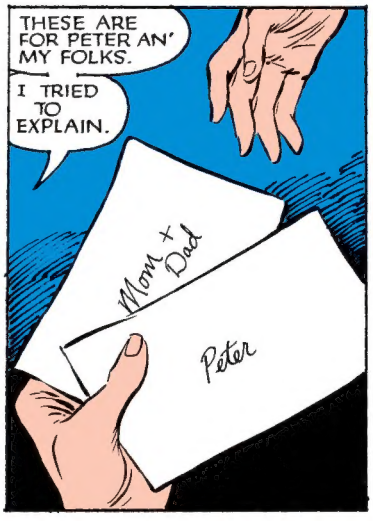
THE MOMENT PETER RASPUTIN BECOMES HUMAN...
...BLOOD POURS FROM SCORES OF WOUNDS.

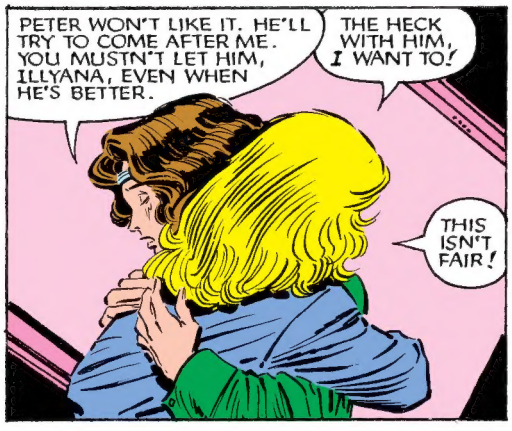
HE HAS SECONDS TO LIVE...
...BUT THE MORLOCK HEALER'S TOUCH EXTENDS THAT TO MINUTES...

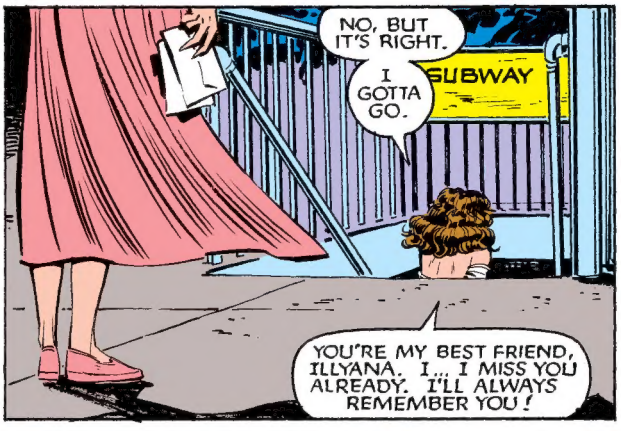
...THEN TO YEARS-- AND FINALLY, TO THE YOUNG RUSSIAN'S ALLOTTED SPAN.
IT IS DONE. IT WILL TAKE THE LAD TIME TO FULLY RECOVER HIS STRENGTH AND VITALITY, BUT HE WILL SURVIVE.

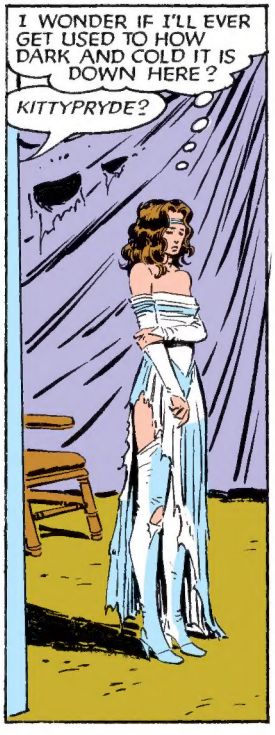

THE NEXT DAY, ON THE CORNER OF 72nd STREET AND CENTRAL PARK WEST...
DO YOU HAVE TO GO?
SUBWAY
Lois


I GAVE MY WORD, ILLYANA.
WHAT AM I, IF THAT MEANS NOTHING? WOLVIE'D UNDERSTAND -- IT'S A MATTER OF HONOR.

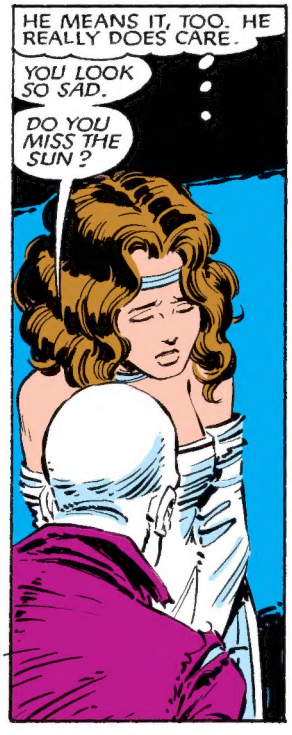

THESE ARE FOR PETER AN' MY FOLKS.
I TRIED TO EXPLAIN.
Mom + Dad
Peter


PETER WON'T LIKE IT. HE'LL TRY TO COME AFTER ME. YOU MUSTN'T LET HIM, ILLYANA, EVEN WHEN HE'S BETTER.
THE HECK WITH HIM, I WANT TO!
THIS ISN'T FAIR!

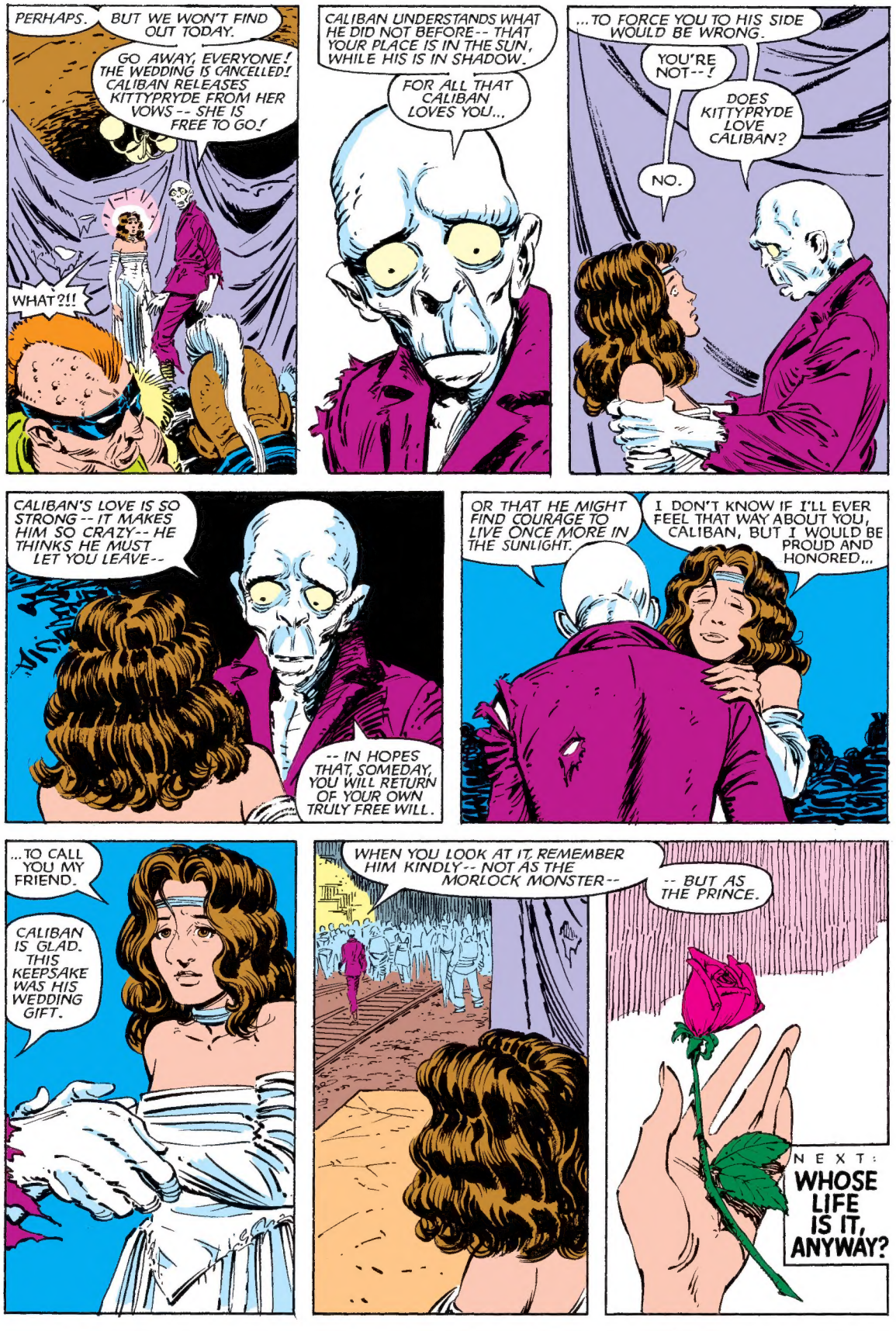

NO, BUT IT'S RIGHT.
I GOTTA GO.
SUBWAY
YOU'RE MY BEST FRIEND, ILLYANA. I... I MISS YOU ALREADY. I'LL ALWAYS REMEMBER YOU!


I WONDER IF I'LL EVER GET USED TO HOW DARK AND COLD IT IS DOWN HERE?
KITTYPRYDE?

HI, CALIBAN. I'M READY WHEN YOU ARE.
CALIBAN HAS NEVER SEEN...
... ANYONE -- ANYTHING -- MORE BEAUTIFUL.


HE MEANS IT, TOO. HE REALLY DOES CARE.
YOU LOOK SO SAD.
DO YOU MISS THE SUN?

IT'S MY WORLD, CALIBAN -- AT LEAST, IT WAS.
NOW, YOUR WORLD IS MINE. AND YOUR LIFE. WHO KNOWS, WITH A LITTLE LUCK, MAYBE WE'LL LIVE HAPPILY EVER AFTER?


PERHAPS.
BUT WE WON'T FIND OUT TODAY.
GO AWAY, EVERYONE! THE WEDDING IS CANCELLED! CALIBAN RELEASES KITTYPRYDE FROM HER VOWS -- SHE IS FREE TO GO!
WHAT?!!
CALIBAN UNDERSTANDS WHAT HE DID NOT BEFORE -- THAT YOUR PLACE IS IN THE SUN, WHILE HIS IS IN SHADOW.
FOR ALL THAT CALIBAN LOVES YOU...
...TO FORCE YOU TO HIS SIDE WOULD BE WRONG.
YOU'RE NOT--!
DOES KITTYPRYDE LOVE CALIBAN?
NO.
CALIBAN'S LOVE IS SO STRONG -- IT MAKES HIM SO CRAZY -- HE THINKS HE MUST LET YOU LEAVE--
-- IN HOPES THAT, SOMEDAY, YOU WILL RETURN OF YOUR OWN TRULY FREE WILL.
OR THAT HE MIGHT FIND COURAGE TO LIVE ONCE MORE IN THE SUNLIGHT.
I DON'T KNOW IF I'LL EVER FEEL THAT WAY ABOUT YOU, CALIBAN, BUT I WOULD BE PROUD AND HONORED...
...TO CALL YOU MY FRIEND.
CALIBAN IS GLAD. THIS KEEPSAKE WAS HIS WEDDING GIFT.
WHEN YOU LOOK AT IT, REMEMBER HIM KINDLY -- NOT AS THE MORLOCK MONSTER--
-- BUT AS THE PRINCE.
NEXT:
WHOSE LIFE IS IT, ANYWAY?